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*Indicator Particles in Somali*

by

B. W. Andrzejewski



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# THE RÔLE OF INDICATOR PARTICLES IN SOMALI

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In Somali there is a number of indicators (phrasal particles) which act as signals of completeness of the sentence and affect the case system and verbal concords. The structures in which they occur have various semantic functions such as the directing of emphasis, making statements and questions, and affirmation and negation.

The formulations presented in this article provide an overall view of the rôle of indicators and are illustrated by annotated examples, a large proportion of which are drawn from plays, newspaper articles, narratives and proverbs. Although mainly oriented towards data, the article incorporates some of the recent theoretical developments introduced into the Somali field by Robert Hetzron and A.K. Zholkovsky.

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Section I  
INTRODUCTION\*

There is a group of particles in Somali which play a very important rôle in the structure of sentences and at the same time have semantic functions which set them apart from all the other word classes in the language. For these particles, which are listed in Section II, I use the term "indicator," first introduced in BE 53,<sup>1</sup> but substantially modified here. To the particles *bāa*, *ma*<sup>2</sup> and *waa*<sup>3</sup> which BE 53 describes as indicators I have added six other items, and at the same time I have excluded from the list the particle *la*, which I place in a separate word class and call "impersonal pronoun." In ZH 71 the indicators *bāa*, *waa*<sup>3</sup>, *wāxa* and *wēeyē* are referred to as "frazovaya častitsa" ("phrasal particle") a term which has the advantage of stressing their role in sentence structure.

The importance of indicators in Somali, apart from their semantic functions, lies in the fact that with the exception of the cases listed in Section X, every fully formed sentence must have at least one of them. They act thus as signals of completeness of the sentence<sup>3</sup> and their absence, in certain structures, acts as a signal of dependence of a verbal form on the preceding noun or its equivalent. The following examples illustrate this point. In the first sentence the presence of the indicator *bāa* after *wīlkkī* 'the boy' shows that the sentence is complete, in the second its absence shows that the noun is followed by a dependent verbal clause.

<i>wīlkkī bāa yīmī.</i>	'The boy came.'
<i>wīlkkī yīmī</i>	'the boy who came'

In this connection it should be observed that in Somali there are no words corresponding in their function to the English 'who', 'whom' or 'which', as used in relative clauses.

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\*During the researches on which the formulations presented here are based, and which extended over a long period, I received much help from Somali colleagues and friends, too many to mention here by name. I must, however, acknowledge my great debt to Mr. Musa Hajji Ismail Galaal (*Muuse Xaaji Ismaaciil Galaal*). (Note: For biographical and bibliographical information concerning Mr. Musa Galaal see D.R. Dudley and D.M. Lang (ed.), *The Penguin Companion to Literature*, 4 Classical and Byzantine, Oriental and African, Harmondsworth, Penguin Books, 1969, p. 348 and John William Johnson, "Research in Somali folklore," *Research in African Literatures*, 4/1, 1973, pp. 51-61.)

I am very grateful to the members of the Somali Language Committee (*Guddiga Af Soomaaliga*) of the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture, who gave me the opportunity of discussing with them various aspects of Somali grammar, including the impact of indicators on verbal concord, at their sessions in Mogadishu in 1973.

In the preparation and checking of the final draft of this article I received valuable assistance from Mr. Abdisalam Yassin Mohamed (*Cabdisalaan Yaasiin Maxamed*), a young scholar and an accomplished poet, now working on a thesis in the field of Somali literature at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Mr. J.C.B. Date, a former student at the school, also helped me in the final stages by checking the typescript for errors and inconsistencies and offering some much appreciated suggestions.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to Professor Robert Hetzron, who kindly read the draft of this article and commented on points which required clarification and restatement.

<sup>1</sup>For abbreviated bibliographical references see Section XIV.

<sup>2</sup>The use of the symbol <sup>1</sup> is explained later in this section.

<sup>3</sup>This function of indicators receives a great deal of attention in ZH 71: 12 and passim.

All indicators, even though some of them have different, additional semantic functions, carry some degree of emphasis which they impart to certain words or groups of words in their immediate environment. In this respect they perform a function comparable to that of intonation and stress in some languages, such as English for example, where emphasis is expressed by these features.

In Somali, however, comparable accentual features are already used very extensively for other purposes. They act as exponents of

(a) gender and number in nouns (AB 64, AR 34, AN 64a)

(b) case in nouns (AB 64, AN 54, AN 64a, MU 56, ZH 71)

and as integral parts of the inflectional system in nouns (AB 64, AN 64a) and verbs (AB 64, AN 68, AN 69, AN 74a).

The importance of indicators also lies in their role in the concord system, since they act, figuratively speaking, as "selectors" of verbal forms in the sentence. Without reference to them it is impossible to account for the dichotomy between the so-called "extensive" and "restrictive" verbal forms (AN 68). Compare, for example, the following two sentences, where the verbal forms are *yīmaaddeen* and *yīmī*:

*Nīmānkīi wāa yīmaaddeen.*

*Nīmānkīi bāa yīmī.*

Both sentences mean 'The men came', but in the first there is some emphasis on the verb and in the second on the noun. In written English, where stress and intonation are not marked, the nearest translation equivalents of these two sentences would be 'The men did come' and 'It was the men who came', respectively.

The aim of this article is to provide formulations which set out in some detail the salient characteristics of individual indicators within a unified overall framework and to illustrate them with a sizable number of examples. In Sections II - XI, where descriptive formulations are given, the examples consist of very short, simple sentences drawn from the contexts of research sessions with the speakers of the language. Sentences taken from wider contexts, however, are all put together in Section XII and form a large part of this article. The reasons for introducing here this somewhat unusual arrangement are simple. Sentences taken from wider contexts, such as, for example, continuous narratives, often require lengthy annotations to make their form and content completely meaningful to a reader unfamiliar with the language and its culture. Yet such annotations tend to distract the reader and break the continuity of the argument presented. Literal translations might serve as an alternative to annotations, but on account of the vast differences in the word order and rank shifting techniques between English and Somali I have decided to use this device very sparingly. Furthermore some people object to frequent recourse to literal renderings on the grounds that they tend to give a quaint, distorted or even offensive impression of what in the original sounds perfectly normal.

Even though they do not require annotations short sentences used as examples in Sections II - XI present a translation problem. It is a characteristic of Somali that it has no 3sg.m., 3sg.f. and 3pl. forms of the object pronoun (see Section II) and the absence of any word or group of words which could be the object of a transitive verb or a verb with a prepositional particle corresponds, in its semantic function, to the English 'it', 'him', 'her' or 'them', e.g.

*Wūu arkay.*

'He saw it/him/her/them.'

If a transitive verb takes a double object there could be an even larger number of alternative renderings, e.g.

*Wūu sjiyey.*

'He gave it to him/her/them.'

'He " him to her/them.'

'He " her to him/them.'

'He " them to him/her.'

A similar multiplicity of alternative renderings exists when after an indicator no subject pronoun (see Section II) is used and the verb which follows is in its invariable form i.e. the form which is the same in all persons, e.g.

*Mā jəgəsaŋ.*

'I/you(sg.)/he/she/we/you(pl.)/they did not stop.'

In order to dispense with the necessity of listing all the alternative translations I have introduced here a convention that when the word "etc." is placed in brackets after a pronoun in the translation two or more renderings are possible but only one is used, e.g.

*Mā sīn.*

'He (etc.) did not give it (etc.) to him (etc.).'

The descriptive statements presented in this article apply to the Northern branch of what can be described as Standard (or Common) dialect type. They would require only minor modifications if applied to the other branches of this dialect type or to the Coastal dialect type. For a brief account of the major dialect divisions see AN and LE 64: 37-38 and AN 71: 271-272.

The method of transcription is the same as in AN 64a, except for the following changes:

- (a) The symbols *ḍ*, *ṇ*, *ˆ* and *ˊ* are replaced by *dh*, *x*, *c* and *'* respectively.
- (b) The spelling conventions (i), (iii), (iv) and (v) in AN 64a: 110-113 have been abandoned.
- (c) The symbol *ˊ* is introduced.

The changes (a) and (b) are designed to bring my transcription into almost complete conformity with the Somali national orthography introduced on 21 October 1972 (see AN 74b). After the changes are effected, the only difference between my transcription and the orthography lies in my use of accentual marks, the cedilla and the semicircle over *y* (*ŷ*). These differences do not imply any criticism of the orthography on my part and result merely from the need of greater precision in linguistic description than in practical communication. The Somali orthography is very well designed as a tool of public and private communication, education and culture and has already contributed substantially to the spectacular progress which Somalia has made in these spheres. In its precision of representing the sounds of the language the Somali orthography compares well with most orthographies in the world including Italian and Polish. It may be appropriate to mention that some of the linguists in the Academy of Culture in Mogadishu are actively engaged in the study of the features represented here by accentual marks and the cedilla (or its absence) in connection with their researches into the lexical resources of the languages.

Since I have abandoned the spelling conventions (i) and (v) in AN 64a: 110-113, I have adopted the general principle implied in the current orthographic practice in Somalia that the transcription represents a flow of speech uninterrupted by any pauses other than those which are indicated by punctuation marks.

Variations in vowel quality are possible in sequences *ay/ey* (very frequent in verbal affixes) and my transcription represents the variant used in the particular utterance at the time when it was written down, from speech or taperecording. This again is done in conformity with the current orthographic practice which leaves a considerable degree of latitude for individual variations. No attempt is made at standardization as set out in the spelling convention (iv) in AN 64a: 112 or as suggested in AR 34: 154.

There are a few words in Somali which, as far as their accentual patterns are concerned, have positional variants (abbreviated here to pos.var.) completely unrelated to any semantic function,<sup>4</sup> e.g.

<sup>4</sup>The choice of a particular variant is determined by the accentual patterns, and sometimes also by the grammatical status of the neighbouring words. The rules concerning the distribution of such variants have not been elaborated in detail and require further investigation.

*Wāa bēer.* 'It is a garden.'  
*Waa gēed.* 'It is a tree.'

Since such words do not occur in isolation the problem arises as to how they should be marked when discussed in abstraction from any specific context. In my system of representing accentual features (AN 64a: 18-22) absence of any accentual mark is used for one of the accentual units and consequently cannot serve any other purpose. To meet the need of transcribing words without any reference to their accentual features the symbol ' is introduced here. When placed after a particular word it signifies that no accentual features are marked in it.

A detailed account of indicators in Somali requires some preliminary steps. In order to place them within the sentence structure it is first necessary to give definitions of word classes and of certain relevant word groups. This is particularly important since in the literature on Somali there is neither a generally accepted system of classification of such units nor a unified terminology. Unambiguous definitions of word classes are further needed for annotating the sentences which serve as examples of the syntactic environment in which indicators occur.

## Section II

### WORD CLASSES

In the list given below word classes are defined either by listing their members or by reference to some readily applicable criteria, and references are made to publications in which more extensive information can be found. These references are selective and the reader who wishes to review the whole literature on Somali grammar will find bibliographical guidance in JO 69.

After the name of each class an abbreviation is given which will be used afterwards in formulaic statements and annotations of examples.

#### DEFINITE ARTICLE OF THE GENERAL TYPE (DEF.ART.GEN.)

*ka, ta*

AN 61: 81, 97-98; AN 64a: 118-120.

The form beginning with *k-* is masculine and the one beginning with *t-* is feminine; the same applies to all the other articles and definitives listed below. For information concerning gender in Somali see AB 64 and BE 53.

#### DEFINITE ARTICLE OF THE REMOTE TYPE (DEF.ART.REM.)

*kīi, tīi*

The same references as above.

#### DEMONSTRATIVE (DEM.)

*kān, tān* 'this'; *kāas (kāa), tāas (tāa)* 'that' (sometimes also 'this'); *kēer, tēer* 'that'; *kōo, tōo* 'that'.

Note that *kēer, tēer* and *kōo, tōo* are obsolescent and most speakers have doubts about their exact meaning, even though they recognize their deictic function.

AN 64a: 118-120; BE 53: 18-19.



## POSSESSIVE DEFINITIVE (POSS.DEF.)

*kay¹*, *tay¹* 'my'; *kaa¹*, *taa¹* 'your' (sg.); *kjís¹*, *tjís¹* 'his'; *kged¹*, *tged¹* 'her'; *kayo¹*, *tayo¹* 'our' (excl.); *kgen¹*, *tgen¹* 'our' (incl.); *kjin¹*, *tjin¹* 'your' (pl.); *kgod¹*, *tgod¹* 'their'.

AN 64a: 119-120; BE 53: 69-70.

## INTERROGATIVE DEFINITIVE (INTER.DEF.)

*kêe* (*kêe*), *têe* (*têe*) 'which?'

AN 64a: 120; BE 53: 54.

## INDEFINITE ARTICLE (INDEF.ART.)

*ku*, *tu*

The indefinite article appears to be obsolescent. I have found examples of it in only one type of phrase: *ku kalê* and *tu kalê*, both meaning 'another one' (but with a difference in gender). This article should not be confused with the B Case (Subject Case) forms of *ka*, *ta* (def.art.gen.) as shown in AN 64a: 119 and BE 53: 13.

## NOUN (N.)

The main identifying criteria of this word class are:

- (a) Its members are capable of combining with at least one of the following classes: def.art.gen., def.art.rem., dem., poss.def. or inter.def.; such combinations are characterized by special types of phonological junctions (AN 64a: 121-124).
- (b) It is an open word class, i.e. its membership is capable of expansion at any time by borrowing or innovation. By this definition the following word classes are not considered as nouns, even though they fulfill the conditions given in (a) above: poss.def., card.num., appr.num., unsp.num., subs.pron. and rec. pron.

By the application of the above criteria this word class includes proper names (which for practical, not theoretical, reasons were not covered in AN 64a) and various words denoting time, space and manner, such as *cāawa* 'tonight', *āg* 'near', 'vicinity', or *sāhal* 'easily', 'ease'.

When an individual noun is referred to in the annotation of an example in this article it is first given in the form it has when it occurs in isolation i.e. in its representative form (lexical entry form); this form is followed by an explanation of the form it has in the particular text by reference to its setting, configuration and case (see Section V). The abbreviations m. and f. mean "masculine" and "feminine" respectively. The distinction between plural (pl.) and sub-plural (sub-pl.) is based on different types of concord with verbal forms but does not involve any differentiation of meaning. Collective (coll.) forms are those which are plural in meaning but do not have any formal exponents characteristic of the plural or sub-plural forms.

AN 64a; BE 53, especially 72-73 and 77-78; ZH 66: 158-159.

On verbal concord:<sup>5</sup> AN 64a: 28-29 and HE 72: 259-261.

<sup>5</sup>The table of concords given in AN 64a: 28 requires an adjustment. Below the entry "plural" another entry should be inserted: masculine, sub-plural; the agreeing verbal forms are the same as in the entry for "plural" i.e. 3pl. in both columns. See also Section VII (e) and (f) of this article.

## ADVERBIAL NOUN I (ADV.N.I)

*horē* (*horēy*) 'forward', 'before'; *sarē* 'up'

This class consists only of two members which occupy positions in the sentence comparable to nouns denoting space or time, but do not conform to the first of the criteria set down for nouns. They are always followed by the prep.ptc. *u*<sup>1</sup> and a verb.

AB 64: 110.

## ADVERBIAL NOUN II (ADV.N.II)

*ḡad* 'much', 'very', 'thoroughly'

This word occupies positions in the sentence which are comparable to those of nouns, though not all of them. It does not conform to the first of the criteria set down for nouns. The adv.n.II is often, though not always, followed by the prep.ptc. *u*<sup>1</sup> and a verb.

AB 64: 3, where 'muchness' is given as the first meaning.

## CARDINAL NUMERAL (CARD.NUM.)

The members of this class form the series *kōw* 'one', *lāba* 'two', *sāddex* 'three', *āḡar* 'four', *shān* 'five' etc. Note that *mūd* 'one' which occurs in certain contexts (BE 53: 48) is also included in this class.

BE 53: 48-49.

## APPROXIMATING NUMERAL (APPR.NUM.)

This class is composed of words which could be regarded as combinations of roots present in cardinal numerals and the suffix *-eeyo*, e.g. *tobanēeyo* 'approximately ten', cf. *toban* 'ten'; *aḡartanēeyo* 'approximately forty', cf. *aḡartan* 'forty'.

## UNSPECIFIED NUMERAL (UNSP.NUM.)

*dhāwr* 'several'

Note that nouns which occur with this word have the same "post-numeral" forms as when they occur with cardinal or approximating numerals (AN 64a: 65-66).

## SUBSTANTIVE PRONOUN (SUBS.PRON.)

*ani*<sup>1</sup> 'I', 'me'; *adi*<sup>1</sup> 'you'(sg.); *isa*<sup>1</sup> 'he', 'him'; *iya*<sup>1</sup> 'she', 'her'; *anna*<sup>1</sup> 'we', 'us'(excl.); *inna*<sup>1</sup> 'we', 'us'(incl.); *idin*<sup>1</sup> 'you'(pl.); *iya*<sup>1</sup> 'they', 'them'.

AN 61; BE 53: 30 and 40; ZH 71: 44.

Subs.pron. occur very frequently as components of the nom.aggr.I and sometimes as components of the nom.aggr.II (see Section III). When *ani* and *adi* are immediately followed by the conj. *iyo*<sup>1</sup>, *na*<sup>1</sup>, *oo*<sup>1</sup> or *se*<sup>1</sup> they combine into the following forms: *aniyo*<sup>1</sup>, *anna*<sup>1</sup>, *anoo*<sup>1</sup>, *anse*<sup>1</sup>, *adiyo*<sup>1</sup>, *adna*<sup>1</sup>, *adoo*<sup>1</sup>, *adse*<sup>1</sup>; when *isa* combines with the conj. *na*<sup>1</sup> the combined form is *isna*<sup>1</sup>.

Note that only *ani* and *adi* can be immediately followed by the ind. *bāa*, and this accounts for a certain asymmetry in Table I in Section IV.

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE I (INTER.W.I)

This class is composed of words which are combinations of nouns or substantive pronouns and the suffix *-ma*, e.g. *gōorma* 'what time?' cf. *gōor* (n.f.) 'time'; *mēelma* 'which place?', c.f. *mēel* (n.f.) 'place'; *idīnma* 'which of you?', cf. *idīn*<sup>1</sup> (subs.pron.) 'you'(pl.).

Note that such combinations do not conform to criterion (a) which is applied to nouns and they are consequently treated as a separate class.

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE II (INTER.W.II)

*maxāy* 'what?'

Note that the form *maxāa* given in BE 53: 55-56 is a contraction of *maxāy* + *bāa* (MU 56: 22).

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE III (INTER.W.III)

*kūma*, *tūma*, *kuwāma* 'who?', 'whom?' (sg.m., sg.f. and pl. respectively)

Tentatively these words may be regarded as combinations of the indef.art. and the same suffix as in inter.w.I.

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE IV (INTER.W.IV)

*yaa*<sup>1</sup> 'who?', 'whom?'

BE 53:55.

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE V (INTER.W.V)

*ayō* 'who?'

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE VI (INTER.W.VI)

*īmisa* (*īmmisa*) 'how many?', 'how much?'

BE 53: 49.

## INTERROGATIVE WORD, TYPE VII (INTER.W.VII)

*mēe* (*mēeyey*) 'where is he (it)?', *mēeday* 'where is she (it)?', *mēēyē* 'where are they?'

These forms can be assumed to contain verbal components, possibly related to some forms of the verb *yghay* 'to be' (AN 69: 48-50).

BE 53: 54.

## RECIPROCAL PRONOUN (REC.PRON.)

*is* 'each other', 'one another', 'self'

Note that in certain contexts this word can combine with forms of the poss.def., e.g. *iskāa* 'yourself'.

## SUBJECT PRONOUN (SUBJ.PRON.)

*aan* 'I'; *aad* (*aa*) 'you'(sg.); *uu* 'he'; *ay* 'she'; *aannu* (*aan*) 'we'(excl.); *aynu* 'we'(incl.); *aad* (*aydin*, *aa*) 'you'(pl.); *ay* 'they'.

Note that the accentual patterns of the members of this class shown here apply to all contexts, except those discussed in HE 65: 125; paragraph (e) (ii) A.

AN 61: 93, where the term "preverbal subject pronoun" is used; BE 53: 30 (column 2).

## IMPERSONAL PRONOUN (IMPERS.PRON.)

*la* 'someone', 'one', 'people', 'they', 'an unspecified person'.

AN 60: 103; BE 53: 99, where the term "impersonal indicator" is used.

## OBJECT PRONOUN, TYPE I (OBJ.PRON.I)

*i* 'me'; *ku* 'you'(sg.); *na* 'us'(excl.); *ina* (*inna*) 'us'(excl.); *idin* 'you'(pl.)

Note that in this series the 3sg.m., 3sg.f. and 3pl. do not exist.

AN 60: 103; BE 53: 40 (column 2).

## OBJECT PRONOUN, TYPE II (OBJ.PRON.II)

*kay*! 'me'; *kaa*! 'you'(sg.); *kayo*! 'us'(excl.); *kēen*! 'us'(incl.); *kjīn*! 'you'(pl.)

A member of this class can occur only when it is preceded by an obj.pron.I or the rec.pron.

MU 56: 125 (Note 237); ZH 66: 159 (column 8), where the relative position of these pronouns in preverbal sequences is given.

## ATTRIBUTIVES (ATTR.)

*dambē* 'which is behind'; *dhexē* 'which is in the middle'; *hoosē* 'which is below'; *horē* 'which is before', 'which is first'; *kalē* 'other'; *kastā* 'every'; *korē* 'which is at the top', 'which is above'; *sarē* the same meaning as *korē*; *shishē* 'which is beyond', 'which is on the other side'; *sokē* 'which is on this side'; *wālba* (*walbā*) 'each'.

Note that *wālba* (*walbā*) may be regarded as a compound of *wāl* and the distr.ptc. *ba*!, described later in this section, or even as a phrase composed of these two words.

AN 64a: 126-127; BE 53: 84-85, where the term "local attributive" is used.

## ORDINAL NUMERALS (ORD.NUM.)

The members of this class form the series *koobāad* 'first'; *labāad* 'second'; *saddexāad* 'third'; *aḥrāad* 'fourth'; *shanāad* 'fifth' etc.

BE 53: 75.

## VERB (V.)

The members of this class are characterized by having formal exponents of pronominal reference, time reference and reference to the mode of action or state which they denote. Verbs are divided into three groups: weak, hybrid and strong. Weak and hybrid verbs are described in

AN 68<sup>6</sup> and AN 69 respectively, where they are subdivided into root extension classes. There are only five strong verbs (identified by the code letters STR): the verb *yqhay* 'to be' (AN 69: 48-50) and four verbs with vocalic mutation (AN 74a).

Note that in BE 53 a different classification is used and it corresponds with mine in the following way:

weak verbs = Conjugations 1, 1A-C, 2, 3, 3A-C

hybrid verbs = all adjectives except *ah* (BE 53: 76-78) and Conjugation 4 (Attributive Verbs) (BE 53: 80-83)

strong verbs = Irregular Verbs (BE 53: 32) and the verb *yqhay* 'to be', which is assigned to Conjugation 4, except for its *ah* form which is treated as an adjective (BE 53: 80-83 and 78)

When individual verbs are referred to in annotations of examples they are given in their representative forms (i.e. lexical entry forms) as defined in AN 68, AN 69 and AN 74a: 2sg.imper. for all weak verbs, pres.res. for all hybrid verbs, 3sg.m.past gen.ext. for all strong verbs except *yqhay* 'to be' which is given in the 3sg.m.pres. ext. In such annotations every weak or hybrid verb is provided with capital code letters representing its root extension class according to the classification given in AN 68 and AN 69; the sign † after such code letters shows that the verb belongs to the hybrid group and its absence that it belongs to the weak group.

#### INDICATOR (IND.)

I. *bāa* {*ayāa*, *yāa*}; II. *ha*<sup>†</sup>; III. *miyāa*; IV. *ma*<sup>†</sup>; V. *soo*<sup>†</sup> {*sow*<sup>†</sup>, *show*<sup>†</sup>}; VI. *waa*<sup>†</sup>; VII. *wāxa* {*waxāa*}; VIII. *wēeyē*<sup>†</sup> {*wēeyāan*<sup>†</sup>}; IX. *yaan*<sup>†</sup> {*yaa*<sup>†</sup>}.

I. AN 61: 88; AN 64a: 46-47, 128, 139-140; AN 68: 4; BE 53: 25-27, 29, 34-35; HE 65; MU 56: 22; ZH 71: 12-22 and passim.

II. BE 53: 23-24, 93; MU 56: 74.

III. AN 61: 88; AN 64a: 47.

IV. BE 53: 56, 66-68.

V. BE 53: 111; MU 56: 66 (Note 1/12B, a and c).

This ind. is regarded here as a different word from *sow*<sup>†</sup> {*show*<sup>†</sup>}, which introduces an element of suspense or surprise into the narrative and is assigned to class r.i. described later in this section. See MU 56: 66, Note 12B (b).

VI. AN 64a: 138-139; BE 53: 25-28; ZH 71: 12-22 and passim.

VII. AN 64a: 140-141; AN 68: 44; BE 53: 60; HE 74b; ZH 71: 194-197 and passim.

VIII. BE 53: 83-84; ZH 71: 12-22 and passim.

This ind. is regarded as a different word from *wēeyē*, a word which is used merely as a signal that one is paying attention to what is said, assigned to class r.i.

IX. BE 53: 93-94.

Since indicators are "phrasal particles" it is very difficult to provide them with succinct translations. Their semantic functions can be inferred from the formulations provided in Sections VI and VII.

<sup>6</sup>In this publication the following emendations should be made: P.11, *dhisanayaa* > *dhisānayaa*, P.12, *dhisāyaa* > *dhisayaa*, *djidayaa* > *djīdayaa*, *maqashīinayn* > *maqashīināyn*.

## PREPOSITIONAL PARTICLE (PREP.PTC.)

*u*- 'to', 'for'; *ku*- 'in', 'with' (expressing instrumentality); *ka*- 'from'; *la*- 'together with'.  
AN 60; BE 53: 21-22, where the term "prepositions" is used; ZH 66.

## ADVERBIAL PARTICLE (ADV.PTC.)

*kala* 'apart'; *wada* 'together', 'altogether'; *ṣoo* 'towards what is regarded as the centre of attention'; *ṣii* 'away from what is regarded as the centre of attention'.

AN 60: 101; BE 53: 22, where *ṣoo* and *ṣii* are referred to as "adverbs"; ZH 66: 158-159.

## DISTRIBUTIVE PARTICLE (DISTR.PTC.)

*ba*- 'each', 'whatever', 'whoever', 'all', 'altogether'

BE 53: 75; MU 56: 67-68 (Notes 1/13-14 and 1/14A).

## DECLARATIVE PARTICLE (DECL.PTC.)

*īn* 'that' as in *waan ḡgahay īnuu yjimi* 'I know that he came' or *wāxaan dḡonayaa īnaan ku arkō* 'I want to see you' (lit. 'I want that I see you').

BE 53: 92; MU 56: 65, Note 10(d).

Note that this particle is treated here as a different word from *īn*(n.f.) 'amount', 'period of time', 'group', the full range of meanings of which is given in MU 56: 65, Note 10(a-c) and MU 56: 67, Note 13-14.

## CONCESSIVE PARTICLE (CCV.PTC.)

*wḡlow* 'although', 'even though' (Arabic: *wa law*).

## TERMINAL PARTICLE (TERM.PTC.)

*īlaa*- 'as far as', 'as far back as', 'until', 'since' (Arabic *ilā*).

BE 53: 20, where it is referred to as "preposition."

## NEGATION PARTICLE (NEG.PTC.)

*aan*-

BE 53: 96; MU 56: 68, Note 15B.

## CONJUNCTION (CONJ.)

*amma*- (*ama*-) 'or'; *ee*- (*e*-) 'and', 'but'; *īyo*- 'and'; *na*- 'and', 'but'; *oo*- 'and', 'while'; *se*- 'but', 'yet'; *toona*- 'neither'.

BE 53: 42-43, 110, where the term "coordinate" is used; MU 56: 77, Note 7A.

## RESIDUAL ITEM (R.I.)

This class consists of words which do not belong to any of the classes given above.

EXCURSUS ON *wāxa*

In the list of word classes given above *wāxa* is classified as an indicator and this presents a substantial departure from my previous treatment of this word (AN 64a: 140-141 and AN 68: 44). There I regarded the constructions with *wāxa* as verbless sentences composed of two parts: the inceptive part in which *wāxa* was treated as the noun *wāx* 'thing', 'things', 'person', 'persons' + the def.art.gen.m. followed by a dependent verbal clause, and the sequel part consisting of a noun or its equivalent. The juxtaposition of the two parts was then said to imply the meaning corresponding to the English 'is', 'are', and the whole sentence was regarded as verbless i.e. containing no main verb, e.g.

*Wāxay dōonaysaa dhār.*

'What she wants [is] clothes.'

Note that *wāxay* = *wāxa* and *ay* 'she'.

*Wāxa nalā jōogtā gabādh.*

'The person who is staying with us [is] a girl.'

In sentences of this kind I now regard *wāxa* as an indicator comparable with *bāa* and not as a noun + def.art.gen., and the verbal forms involved as main and not dependent verbs. The revised approach makes it necessary to restate the distribution rules given in AN 68: 44, and such a restatement is provided in Section VII of this article. It must be pointed out that the old and the new rules are mutually convertible on account of the complete homonymy between the dependent and the main verbal forms in question. The homonymous paradigms are given side by side in the table below:

## DEPENDENT POSITIVE

All divergent B paradigms:

All convergent A paradigms:

## DEPENDENT NEGATIVE

All invariable A paradigms:

## MAIN POSITIVE

All extensive paradigms

All restrictive paradigms

## MAIN NEGATIVE

All invariable paradigms

In view of the new approach to the type of sentences under discussion I propose to introduce a new term and call them "heralding sentences." The choice of the term is suggested by the fact that the indicator *wāxa* places emphasis on the noun or its equivalent which comes later in the sentence, thus heralding, as it were, its arrival (see Section VI).

It must be observed that the noun *wāx* (+ the def.art.gen.) frequently occurs as the headword of a nominal cluster containing a dependent clause which may outwardly resemble the first part of a heralding sentence, e.g.

*Wāxay dōonaysō sīi.*

'Give her the thing which she wants.'

No ambiguity can occur, however, since such nominal clusters follow the same rules as any other nominal clusters and function as noun equivalents in the sentence. Even in cases which give the impression of similarity heralding sentences are always differentiated formally from other sentences. Compare, for example, the following sentences:

*Wāxay tidhi garān māayō.*

'She said, "I do not know it (etc.)."'

*Wāxay tidhī garān māayō.*

'I (etc.) do not know what she said.'

(Lit. 'I do not know the thing which she said.')

The change in my treatment of *wāxa* in heralding sentences is due to the new formulations presented in ZH 71 which a mathematician would describe as an elegant solution to a very complex problem. The formulations in ZH 71 fit the general framework of Somali sentence patterns much better, firstly by treating *wāxa* as a phrasal particle (= indicator in my terminology) and secondly by eliminating the following apparent anomalies inherent in the previous treatment:

- (a) The asymmetry in the use of verbal forms A and B, in the rules provided in AN 68: 44.
- (b) The fact that in heralding sentences *wāxa*, if treated as a noun + def.art.gen., cannot occur in its plural form (*waxyaalō*, *waxyaabō*) or combine with def.art.rem. or dem.
- (c) The characteristics of concord in such sentences as: *wāxa timī gabādh*. 'A girl came'. The concord here is between *timī* 'came' (3sg.f.) and *gabādh* 'girl', and not between *wāxa* and *timī*, since the noun *wāx* is masculine and would require the verbal form *yīmī* 'came' (3sg.m.).

While studying the formulations in ZH 71 I reexamined the relationship between heralding sentences and corresponding sentences which contain the indicator *bāa*, and came to conclusions which are entirely in favour of regarding *wāxa* as comparable with *bāa*. All heralding sentences can be derived from statement sentences (see Section VI and VII) containing *bāa* and a main verb, by the application of a very simple rule: 'Replace *bāa* by *wāxa* and transpose the noun or its equivalent<sup>7</sup> which immediately precedes *bāa* to the end of the sentence,' e.g.

*Dhār bāy dōnaysaa.*

*Wāxay dōnaysaa dhār.*

Both sentences have the same meaning: 'She wants clothes.' The only difference between them is that the emphasis on *dhār* 'clothes' is indicated in the first sentence by *bāa* (as *bāy* = *bāa* + *ay*) and in the second sentence by *wāxa* (as *wāxay* = *wāxa* + *ay*). Note that the first of these sentences could be regarded as a type of cleft sentence (HE 65: 130) and translated as 'It is clothes that she wants.' The second sentence, on the other hand, could be regarded as a sentence of cataphoric type, described in HE 74b, in which case the nearest English equivalent in translation would be 'What she wants is clothes'. Although in the present article I have not adopted this interpretation I am fully aware that it constitutes a valid alternative. HE 74b is an important paper, highly relevant to the study of heralding sentences in Somali. In this work which covers a large number of languages and aims at establishing universals, Hetzron views the Somali sentences under discussion as examples of Presentative Movement, a phenomenon which accounts for the occurrence of the focused element in the final position in the sentence. Since I have at my disposal only the preliminary version of this paper I leave my comments till the next opportunity of discussing it in detail. I entirely agree, however, with Hetzron's treatment of heralding sentences in Somali as structures which exemplify "presentativeness." He is right when, speaking about them, he says, "It is the only way in Somali to bring the presentative element to the end of the sentence." In fact, it seems that the main function of these sentences is to postpone the particularly important element till the end, using the first part of the sentence as a device for heralding that element.

<sup>7</sup>There are, however, some restrictions as to the nature of such a noun-equivalent. It can consist only of one of the items listed as N4 or N7 in Table I, Section IV, and if that item is a nominal cluster or a para-nominal cluster II (see Section III) there is a further restriction. A dependent verbal form which occurs in such clusters before *bāa* can have either form A or B, if the B form ends in *-aa* or *-aan*, the choice being optional. The derivational rule given here operates only if A form occurs. A similar choice between forms A and B in dependent verbal forms is also possible in para-nominal clusters I and the same restriction applies if the cluster conveys factual information. When it refers to an intention, wish, purpose or obligation, there is a similar optional choice but it is unrelated to the presence or absence of *bāa* and does not restrict the operation of the rule.



## Section III

## AGGREGATES, CLUSTERS AND QUOTED PIECES

In addition to word classes it is necessary for the description of structures in which indicators occur to establish units which will be termed here nominal aggregates, nominal clusters, para-nominal clusters and quoted pieces.

The term nominal aggregate (nom.aggr.)<sup>8</sup> is applied to the combinations of word classes given below:

		def.art.gen.		def.art.gen. + dem. <i>kān, tǎn</i>
n.		def.art.rem.		poss.def. + def.art.gen.
card.num.	+	dem.	OR +	poss.def. + def.art.rem.
appr.num.		poss.def.		poss.def. + dem.
unsp.num.		inter.def.		poss.def. + inter.def.
		def.art.gen.		
		def.art.rem.		
subs.pron.				
poss.def.	+	dem.		
		inter.def.		
rec.pron.	+	poss.def.		

These combinations are characterized by special types of phonological junctions, described in detail in AN 64a: 119-124 and 126: they form units into which no other words can be inserted. The first component in each of these combinations acts as its headword in the sense that the other components are dependent on it. It should be noted that only the headword is capable of concord with a verbal form.

Nominal aggregates are divided into those which do not contain an inter.def. and those which do. They will be referred to as nom.aggr.I and nom.aggr.II respectively.

The concept of nominal cluster (abbreviated to nom.cl.) is explained in some detail in AN 64a: 40-45 and only a brief description will be given here. It is a syntactic unit, which acts as a "noun substitute" and consists of one of the constructions given below:

- (a) a headword accompanied by a word or group of words dependent on it;
- (b) words or syntactic units linked to one another by the conjunction *īyo!* 'and'.

In a construction of type (a) the headword can be one of the following: def.art.gen., def.art.rem., dem., indef.art., n., card.num., appr.num., unsp.num., subs.pron. or nom.aggr.I; the dependent word or group of words can be: n., attr., ord.num., nom.aggr.I, nom.cl. or a dependent verbal clause.

In a construction of type (b) the following words or groups of words can be involved: def.art.rem., dem., n., card.num., appr.num., unsp.num., subs.pron., nom.aggr.I and II, nom.cl., para-nom.cl.I and II or quot.p. Note that the last three of these items are described later in this section.

<sup>8</sup>The term "nom.aggr." corresponds to the term "defined noun" in BE 53 and AN 64a.

In nominal clusters which contain a dependent clause the headword is often a noun which denotes time, manner or condition. When this happens the nominal cluster is comparable, from the point of view of the meaning it conveys, to adverbial clauses in English, e.g.

<i>mārkuu arkāy</i>	'when he came', lit. '[at] the time when he came'
<i>īntuu jgogāy</i>	'while he stayed', lit. '[during] the time when he stayed'
<i>sīduu ū helāy</i>	'how he found it', lit. 'the manner in which he found it'
<i>haddūu yjmaaddō</i>	'if he comes', lit. '[under] the condition that he comes'

By para-nominal cluster (abbreviated to para-nom.cl.) is understood here a construction identical with the type of nominal cluster which contains a dependent verb clause, except that its headword is a particle. Para-nominal clusters are divided into three types:

Type I, where the headword is the decl.ptc. *īn* 'that'.

Type II, where the headword is the term.ptc. *ilāa* 'until', 'since'.

Type III, where the headword is the ccv.ptc. *wēlow* 'although', 'even though'.

Frequently a piece of direct speech consisting of a word or a group of words forms an integral part of a Somali sentence, e.g.

<i>Hāa bāy yjdhahdeen.</i>	'They said "yes".'
<i>Shālay bāy keeneen būu yjdhi.</i>	'"They brought it yesterday," he said.'

In both sentences the direct speech occupies a position comparable to that of a n., nom.aggr.I or II, or nom.cl. For this reason it is treated here as a syntactic unit and will be referred to as "quoted piece" (abbreviated to quot.p.).

The internal structure of this unit is independent of the structure of the sentence within which it occurs and can, theoretically, be of any length.

#### Section IV

#### NOMINAL AND VERBAL UNITS

In addition to the preliminary steps towards the description of the roles of indicators taken in Sections II and III two substitution series are established here, which will be referred to as N and V units.

N units consist of a series of items indicated by the sign + in the columns of Table I below. The figures at the top of each column give the serial number of each unit. These units will be used in formulations describing structures, where they will represent ANY ONE (but only one) item within each series. Thus for example N2 means: "any one of the following: dem., n., card.num., appr.num., unsp.num., subj.pron., impers.pron., nom.aggr.I, nom.cl."

V units consist of substitution series of verbal forms listed in Table II below. Infinitives + auxiliary verbs are treated here as single units for the purposes of this classification and in such cases the designation of the unit is regarded as determined by the form of the auxiliary verb and not by that of the infinitive. Note, however, that the infinitive can occur by itself, without an auxiliary verb, as a selfstanding unit, usually with future time reference.

The names of verbal paradigms are the same as in AN 68: 2-3 and AN 69: 54-55 and the abbreviations used are: [continued on p. 19]

TABLE I

	N units										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
dem.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
inter.def.	+				+			+			+
n.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
adv.n.I and II	+		+								
card.num.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
appr.num.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
unsp.num.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1sg. & 2sg. subs.pron. <sup>9</sup>	+		+		+	+			+		
inter.w.I	+				+			+			
inter.w.II	+				+			+			
inter.w.III	+				+			+			+
inter.w.IV											+
inter.w.V								+			
inter.w.VI	+				+			+			+
subj.pron.		+									
impers.pron.		+									
nom.aggr.I	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
nom.aggr.II	+				+			+			+
nom.cl.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
para-nom.cl.I	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
para-nom.cl.II	+		+	+							
para-nom.cl.III	+		+								
quot.p.	+		+	+	+	+	+	+			+

<sup>9</sup>Note, however, that all persons of the subs.pron. occur frequently as components of the nom.aggr.I and sometimes as components of the nom.aggr.II (see AN 61: 81-82 and 98).

TABLE II

		V units									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
(i)	imper.										+
	pres.gen.ext.	+									
	pres.cnt.ext.	+									
	pres.gen.res.			+							
	pres.cnt.res.			+							
	past gen.ext.	+									
	past cnt.ext.	+									
	past gen.res.			+							
	past cnt.res.			+							
	past indep.										+
	1sg, 2sg., 1pl. & 2pl.optat.										+
	3sg.m., 3sg.f. & 3pl.optat.								+		
	rhet.				+						
	poten.						+				
	inf.	+		+							
	neg.imper.									+	
	neg.pres.gen.					+					
	neg.pres.cnt.var.					+					
	neg.pres.-past gen.		+			+					
	neg.pres.cnt.inv.		+			+					
	neg.past cnt.		+			+					
	neg.opt.							+			
	neg.cond.					+					

TABLE II (continued)

		V units									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
(ii)	pres.ext.	+									
	past ext.	+									
	pres.res.			+							
	past res.			+							
	pres.comp.										+
	past comp.										+
	pres.exclam.										+
	past exclam.										+
	neg.pres.					+					
	neg.pres.-past		+			+					

(continued from page 16)

cnt.	continuous	inv.	invariable
comp.	comparative	neg.	negative
cond.	conditional	optat.	optative
exclam.	exclamatory	poten.	potential
ext.	extensive	pres.	present
gen.	general	res.	restrictive
imper.	imperative	rhet.	rhetorical
indep.	independent	var.	variable
inf.	infinitive		

It might be of interest to note that the terms "extensive" and "restrictive" do not refer to any specific semantic function of the verbal forms in question. They serve merely as labels for different verbal paradigms whose selection is determined by the position of certain indicators in the sentence, as will be seen from the formulations provided in Section VII. For a historical account of the dichotomy between extensive and restrictive paradigms in Somali and other Cushitic languages see HE 74a.

Like N units, V units are indicated by the sign + in the table below and will be used in describing structures, where they will represent ANY ONE unit of each series. Thus for example V3 means: "any one (but ONLY ONE) verbal form which belongs to any of the following paradigms: pres.gen.res., pres.cnt.res., past gen.res., past cnt.res., inf., pres.res., past res."

Group (i) refers to all weak verbs and all strong verbs except for *yahay* 'to be'. Group (ii) refers to all hybrid verbs and the verb *yahay*, but it should be noted that this verb does not occur in pres.comp., past comp., pres.exclam. and past exclam.

Section V  
INDICATORS AND THE CASE SYSTEM

As demonstrated in AN 64a there is a two term case system in Somali nouns. Compare, for example, *àar* 'a male lion' (case A) and *aar*, the same meaning, (case B) in the two sentences below. For the significance of placing words or groups of words between exclamation marks, see the part of Section VI which deals with emphasis.

*Àar mǎ qabtay?*  
'(!)Did(!) he (!)catch(!) a male lion?'

*Aar mǎ qabtay?*  
'(!)Did(!) a male lion (!)catch(!) him (etc.)?'

Case differentiation of this kind does not occur, however, in certain contexts, namely:

- (i) when the noun is emphasized and is preceded by ind. *waa*<sup>1</sup> or *wāxa* (*waxāa*) or followed by *wēyē* (*wēyāan*),
- (ii) when the noun is emphasized and is followed by ind. *bāa* (*ayāa*, *yāa*) or *miyāa* and,
- (iii) when the noun is followed by an item dependent on it or is linked by a conjunction to an item parallel to it (i.e. an item not dependent on it).

Examples:

- (i) *Wāxuu (= wāxa uu) qabtay àar.*  
'He caught (!)a male lion(!).'  
*Wāxa qabtāy àar.*  
'(!)A male lion(!) caught him (etc.).'
- (ii) *Àar bāa wjil qabtay.*  
'A boy caught (!)a male lion(!).'  
*Àar bāa wjil qabtāy.*  
'(!)A male lion(!) caught a boy.'
- (iii) *Àar wēyn mǎ qabtay?*  
'(!)Did(!) he (!)catch(!) a big male lion?' (Lit. 'a lion which is big')  
*Àar wēyni mǎ qabtay?*  
'(!)Did(!) a big male lion (!)catch(!) him (etc.)?'
- Àar iyo gōol mǎ qabteen?*  
'(!)Did(!) they (!)catch(!) a male lion and a lioness?'
- Àar iyo gooli mǎ qabteen?*  
'(!)Did(!) a male lion and a lioness (!)catch(!) him (etc.)?'

Each type of context which determines the presence or absence of case differentiation in a noun is referred to as its configuration, a term introduced in AN 64a: 45-48. The contexts described in (i), (ii), and (iii) above are called neutral,<sup>10</sup> closed and concatenated configurations respectively and the context in which case differentiation can occur is called open configuration.

<sup>10</sup>In view of what has been said in Section II concerning sentences containing the ind. *wāxa*, the wording of the definition of neutral configuration in AN 64a: 45-46 should be changed by substituting "a verbless sentence of *wax*-type" by "a heralding sentence." Note that "sequel part" corresponds to N4 and N7 in the formulations given in Table III in Section VII. In addition this definition should be enlarged by including in it the position before *wēyē* or after *wāxa wēyē* (see Table III, Section VII).

A noun in concatenated configuration forms, *ipso facto*, part of a nominal cluster. If such a nominal cluster taken as a unit occurs in open configuration, case differentiation is displaced, as it were, from the noun to the marker of the nominal cluster. By marker is understood here the last component of the nominal cluster which is directly dependent on its headword (or one of its headwords) or is the last headword (if there are more than one). How this displacement operates can be shown by reference to two pairs of examples already cited, in which the markers are indicated by the raised letter *m*.

*Āar wēyn<sup>m</sup> mā qabtay?*  
*Āar weyni<sup>m</sup> mā qabtay?*  
*Āar iyo gōol<sup>m</sup> mā qabteen?*  
*Āar iyo gooli<sup>m</sup> mā qabteen?*

When a nominal cluster, taken as a unit, stands in neutral, closed or concatenated configuration there is no case differentiation in its marker, e.g.

*Wūxuu (wāxa uu) qabtay āar wēyn.*  
 'He caught (!) a big male lion(!).'  
*Wāxa qabtāy āar wēyn.*  
 '(!) A big male lion(!) caught him (etc.).'  
*Āar wēyn bāa wīl qabtay.*  
 'A boy caught (!) a big male lion(!).'  
*Āar wēyn bāa wīl qabtāy.*  
 '(!) A big male lion(!) caught a boy.'  
*Āar wēyn iyo gōol bāa qabteen.*  
 'They caught (!) a big male lion and a lioness(!).'  
*Āar wēyn iyo gōol bāa qabtāy.*  
 '(!) A big male lion and a lioness(!) caught him (etc.).'

It is clear from all the formulations relating to the neutral and closed configurations that the presence and the relative position of indicators play an important rôle in the case system in Somali.

The concept of configuration is extended here to all the items which occur as N units, if in the definitions given above we replace the word noun by any of these items. It must be observed in this connection that the subj.pron. and the impers.pron. are always in open configuration and are always in case B, while the obj.pron. I and II, which also occur only in open configuration, are always in case A.

Although not directly related to the presence of indicators and their relative position in the sentence, the concept of setting is relevant to the concept of configuration and for this reason is mentioned here. In AN 64a three settings are recognized in nouns:

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (i) simple setting          | when the noun does not form part of a nom.cl.                                       |
| (ii) subordinate setting    |   |
| (a) subordinate-genitival   | when the noun is dependent on an item other than any of those given under (b) below |
| (b) subordinate-postnumeral | when the noun is dependent on a card.num., appr.num., unsp.num. or the inter.w.VI.  |
| (iii) integrated setting    | when the noun forms part of a nom.cl. but is not in a subordinate setting           |

In this article the concept of setting is extended to those other items which can occur as N units; the para-nom.cl. is treated as an equivalent of the nom.cl. for the purposes of the above definition.

The concepts of configuration and of setting are used in the annotations of examples in Sections VII and XII. In this connection note the following abbreviations:

neu.cfg. = neutral configuration	smpl.stg. = simple setting
clo.cfg. = closed "	sub.gnt.stg. = subordinate genitival setting
cct.cfg. = concatenated "	sub.pnl.stg. = subordinate postnumeral setting
ope.cfg. = open "	intg.stg. = integrated setting

Note that the division into types A and B in the forms of the def.art.gen., def.art.rem., dem., poss.def. and attr. is related to their distribution in different settings, configurations and cases. For the characteristics of forms A and B in these word classes see AN 64a: 118-120 and 127.

## Section VI

### SEMANTIC FUNCTIONS OF STRUCTURES IN WHICH INDICATORS OCCUR

It is very difficult, if not impossible, to describe the semantic functions of indicators in isolation. These functions have to be treated in relation to the syntactic structures of which the indicators are integral components and which are set out in detail in Table III, Section VII.

The description of the semantic functions of these structures as such (i.e. in abstraction from the lexical meaning of the constituent N and V units) includes, of necessity, the semantic functions of indicators.

The syntactic structures in which indicators occur have a number of specific types of semantic function which are described in this section. It is convenient to deal separately with (a) those structures which contain a V unit and (b) those which do not.

The types of semantic function in structures (a) are given in the list below:

STATEMENT	as contrasted with question or command.
ELICITIVE QUESTION	i.e. one to which an answer containing specific information is expected.
POLAR QUESTION	i.e. one to which the answer "yes" or "no" is normally expected.
ENCOURAGEMENT TO ACT	i.e. encouraging the listener to perform the action denoted by the V unit.
ENCOURAGEMENT TO AGREE	i.e. suggestion that the listener ought to agree with what the speaker is saying.
SUGGESTION OF LIKELIHOOD	i.e. suggestion that what the speaker is saying is likely to happen.
WISH	i.e. expression of a wish that what is denoted by the V unit should occur.
COMMAND	i.e. direct command addressed to the listener.
POSITIVENESS	as opposed to negativeness; note that the concept of positiveness is applied here to structures as such and not to the individual components. Thus <i>Wuu imān wgaŋey</i> 'He failed to come' is regarded as positive in spite of the negative meaning of the verb. Similarly, <i>Wāan maqlay īnaanu imān</i> 'I heard that he did not come' is regarded as positive in spite of the fact that the para-nom.cl.I, <i>īnaanu imān</i> 'that he did not come' is negative.
NEGATIVENESS	i.e. negation; note that, as in the case of positiveness, the concept of negativeness is applied here to structures and not to their individual components.



## EMPHASIS

i.e. emphasis on a particular component of the structure; note that in the formulations in Table III in Section VII such emphasized components are placed between two exclamation marks in accordance with the practice introduced in HE 65. Although the term emphasis may seem self-evident its use in this article requires some comment. I use it in the sense, suggested by Hetzron (HE 74b), of "focussing (*mise en relief*, *Hervorhebung*)" which elevates "the communicational importance of an element above the level of the rest of the sentence." This function is clear in such contrastive sentences as:

(! )Xāsan(! ) bāa yqqaan.  
'(! )Xasan(! ) knows him (etc.).'

Xasan wāa (! )yqqaan(! ).  
'Xasan (! )knows(! ) him (etc.).'

The degree of the emphasizing function may differ according to various characteristics of the individual components of the ISC, but it is extremely difficult to calibrate it. The most significant and successful attempt at unravelling such semantic nuances is found in HE 65. In some cases, especially in longer sentences where a temporal expression receives emphasis, its degree is so attenuated that doubts may arise as to its presence. An interesting comment on this problem is provided by Zholkovsky (ZH 71: 129-136), who describes the emphasizing function as "logical accent," the presence of which is an obligatory feature of most Somali sentences. He remarks that this logical accent can undergo semantic erosion (*razmīvaetsya*), a linguistic phenomenon to which parallels can be found in other languages.

## HERALDING

which consists of announcing at the beginning of the structure that the emphasized component will occur at the end of it. Note that this kind of "announcing" is dealt with in HE 74b. Hetzron describes the Somali structures which have this function within the framework of his Presentative Movement, a phenomenon which, as he demonstrates, has parallels in numerous languages, and the motivation for which, it seems, may amount to a language universal.

The types of semantic functions present in structures (b) are given below:

STATEMENT as in structures (a).

ELICITIVE QUESTION " " " "

POLAR QUESTION " " " "

EMPHASIS " " " "

HERALDING " " " "

IDENTIFICATION can only be defined in relation to certain other semantic functions. (a) If the sentence is a statement, this function consists of an assertion that someone or something is what is denoted by the emphasised N unit, e.g. *Nīnkanu waa yqqaan*. 'This man is (!)a chieftain(!)'. Note that the subject in such sentences is often omitted, e.g. *Waa yqqaan*. '[He] is (!)a chieftain(!)'. (b) If the sentence is an elicitive question, this function consists of an inquiry in answer to which a statement concerning the identity or some identifying characteristics of someone or something is expected, e.g. *Wāa yqqaaskē?* '(!)Which chieftain(!) is he?' (c) If the sentence is a polar question, this function consists of an inquiry whether someone or something is or is not what is denoted by the emphasized N unit e.g. *Nīnkanu ma yqqaan bāa?* 'Is this man (!)a chieftain(!)?', *Ma yqqaan bāa?* 'Is [he] (!)a chieftain(!)?' For further information see AN 64a: 137-140.



well. It should be noted, however, that the optional variants of *bāa* do not normally occur when the emphasized N unit is preceded by ind. *ma*<sup>1</sup> or when it consists of an inter.def., any inter.w., nom.aggr.II or a subs.pron.

- (c) The raised letter *c* (as in N1<sup>c</sup>, V1<sup>c</sup> etc.) indicates that the two items marked with it are in concord with each other. For references to concord rules see Section II, the entry on noun; see also BE 53, AN 61, AN 68 and AN 69.
- (d) Even those verbal forms which belong to invariable paradigms, i.e. those which are the same in all persons (e.g. neg.pres.-past gen.), are regarded as capable of concord with N units. The formal test of concord in such cases is the potentiality of concord in the corresponding forms of variable paradigms, i.e. those which have different forms in different persons of the paradigm (e.g. pres.gen.ext.).
- (e) When the N unit is a para-nom.cl.I vacillation occurs in the gender of the V unit in concord with it. Especially when the V unit consists of a form of the verb *dhāc* (Z) 'to happen', *jīr* (Z) 'to be' or *muuqō* (AN) 'to appear, to seem', there is a marked tendency for the para-nom.cl.I to be treated, from the point of view of concord, as if it were a sg.f. rather than sg.m. noun, e.g. *Wāxa muuqatā inay yīmaaddēen*. 'It appears that they have come' (Lit. 'That they have come appears.'). Such a preference may be due to the fact that in Somali 3sg.f. form of the subj. pron. is frequently used in impersonal constructions, e.g. *Shālay bāy ahayd*. 'It was yesterday.'
- (f) When the ind. *wāxa* and a V unit precede an N unit, the concord between the V and N units is open to the following type of vacillation: 3sg.m. forms of the verb can occur as optional alternatives to 3sg.f. forms, except when the noun in concord denotes one person of female sex or one animal distinctly perceived as being of female sex, e.g. *hāl* 'she-camel'. Vacillation is particularly common when the noun is fem.coll. e.g. *Wāxa tīmī ǧrgo* 'A delegation came' or *Wāxa yīmī ǧrgo* (The same meaning.).
- (g) When the ind. *bāa* (*ayāa*, *yāa*), *miyāa*, *waa*<sup>1</sup> or *wāxa* (*waxāa*) are followed by the neg.ptc. *aan* they combine with it into the following contracted forms: *bāan* (*ayāan*, *yāan*), *miyāan*, *waan*<sup>1</sup>, *wāxāan* (*waxāan*). For an account of "contraction" in Somali see AN 64a: 114-117 and MU 56: 20-23.
- (h) When the indicators given in (g) above are followed by the neg.ptc. *aan*<sup>1</sup> and a subj.pron. they combine with these items into the following contracted forms:<sup>11</sup>

*bāanan*  
*bāanad*  
*bāanu*  
*bāanay*  
*bāannan* (*bāannaan*)  
*bāynan* (*bāynaan*)  
*bāydan* (*bāydaan*) (*bāynad*)  
*bāanay*  
*(ayāanan)*  
*(ayāanad)*  
 etc.  
*(yāanan)*  
*(yāanad)*  
 etc.

<sup>11</sup>Note that there are dialectal variations, even within the Standard dialect type, in the forms of these combinations; see, for example, MO 55: 285.

*miyāanan*

*miyāanad*

etc.

*wāanan*

*wāanad*

etc.

*wāxaanan*

*wāxaanad*

etc.

- (i) When the indicators listed in (g) above are followed by a subj.pron. they combine with it into the following contracted forms:

*bāan*

*bāad*

*bāu*

*bāy*

*bāannu* (*bāan*)

*bāynu*

*bāad* (*bāydīn*, *bāa*)

*bāy*

*ayāan*

*ayāad*

etc.

*yāan*

*yāad*

etc.

*miyāan*

*miyāad*

etc.

*waan*<sup>1</sup>

*waad*<sup>1</sup>

etc.

*wāxaan* (*waxāan*)

*wāxaad* (*waxāad*)

*wāxuu* (*wuxūu*)

*wāxay* (*waxāy*)

etc.

Note that the uncontracted sequences of *wāxa* and a subj.pron. can also occur:

*wāxa aan*

*wāxa aad*

*wāxa uu*

*wāxa ay*

etc.

- (j) When the ind. *yaan*<sup>1</sup> is followed by a subj.pron. they combine into the following contracted forms:

*yāanan* (*yaan*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāanad* (*yaad*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāanu* (*yu*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāanay* (*yay*<sup>1</sup>, *yey*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāannan* (*yāannaan*, *yaannu*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāynan* (*yāyna*<sup>1</sup>, *yēynan*, *yēyna*<sup>1</sup>, *yaynu*<sup>1</sup>, *yeynu*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāydan* (*yāyda*<sup>1</sup>, *yēydan*, *yēyda*<sup>1</sup>, *yāynad*, *yēynad*, *yaad*<sup>1</sup>)

*yāanay* (*yay*<sup>1</sup>, *yey*<sup>1</sup>)

- (k) Some ICCs occur rarely or very rarely; they are marked with *ɾ* or *ɿ* respectively.<sup>12</sup>

- (l) The presence of particular semantic functions is shown by the sign + placed in the column headed by the appropriate designations which are explained in Section VI. Thus for example the structure *wāxa aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> !N4! has the following semantic functions:

- I. It emphasizes what is denoted by N4.
- II. It shows that the sentence is a statement.
- III. It shows that the emphasized item comes at the end of the structure.
- IV. It shows that the sentence is negative.

Similarly, *waa*<sup>1</sup> !N8! has the following semantic functions:

- I. It emphasizes what is denoted by N8.
- II. It shows that the sentence is a statement if N8 is not an inter.def., an inter.w. or a nom.aggr.II.
- III. It shows that the sentence is an elicitive question if N8 is one of the items enumerated in II above.
- IV. It shows that the sentence contains a specific assertion concerning the identity of what is denoted by N8 if N8 is not a para-nom.cl.I.
- V. It shows that the sentence contains a specific assertion that what is denoted by N8 is obligatory or necessary if N8 is a para-nom.cl.I.

<sup>12</sup>The relative frequency of the commonly occurring ICCs varies according to the context. The ICCs which are elicitive or polar questions, for example, are found more often in a dialogue than in a narrative. It is highly relevant, from the point of view of the study of Presentative Movement (HE 74b), that the ICCs which contain the ind. *wāxa* are much favoured in radio news bulletins. I have found that in some of them every sentence contained the ind. *wāxa*. Since the introduction of the national orthography in 1972 this practice has also been adopted by journalists.

TABLE III  
THE STRUCTURES AND SEMANTIC FUNCTIONS OF ICCs  
Part One

	STATEMENT		ELICITIVE QUESTION		POLAR QUESTION		HERALDING		IDENTIFICATION		SPECIFICATION OF NECESSITY		POSITIVENESS		NEGATIVENESS	
Emphasis on the N marked with !!																
!N1! bāa N2 <sup>c</sup> V1 <sup>c</sup>	+	+											+			
ma- !N3! bāa N2 <sup>c</sup> V1 <sup>c</sup>				+									+			
wāxa N2 <sup>c</sup> V1 <sup>c</sup> !N4!	+				+								+			
ma- wāxa N2 <sup>c</sup> V1 <sup>c</sup> !N4!				+	+								+			
!N1! bāa aan- N2 <sup>c</sup> V2 <sup>c</sup>	+	+													+	r
ma- !N3! bāa aan- N2 <sup>c</sup> V2 <sup>c</sup>				+											+	<u>r</u>
wāxa aan- N2 <sup>c</sup> V2 <sup>c</sup> !N4!	+				+										+	r
!N5 <sup>c</sup> ! bāa V3 <sup>c</sup>	+	+											+			
ma- !N6 <sup>c</sup> ! bāa V3 <sup>c</sup>				+									+			
!N6 <sup>c</sup> ! miyāa V3 <sup>c</sup>				+									+			<u>r</u>
wāxa V3 <sup>c</sup> !N7 <sup>c</sup> !	+				+								+			
!N5 <sup>c</sup> ! bāa aan- V2 <sup>c</sup>	+	+												+		r
ma- !N6 <sup>c</sup> ! bāa aan- V2 <sup>c</sup>				+										+		<u>r</u>
wāxa aan- V2 <sup>c</sup> !N7 <sup>c</sup> !	+				+									+		r
waa- !N8!	+	+				+	+	+	+	+						
ma- !N9! bāa				+		+	+	+	+	+						
!N10! miyāa				+		+	+	+	+	+						r
!N11! wēyē	+	+				+	+	+	+	+						
wāxa wēyē !N7!	+				+	+							+			r

TABLE III

## Part Two

	NEGATIVENESS									
	POSITIVENESS									
	COMMAND									
	WISH									
	SUGGESTION OF LIKELIHOOD									
	ENCOURAGEMENT TO AGREE									
	ENCOURAGEMENT TO ACT									
	POLAR QUESTION									
	STATEMENT									
Emphasis on the V marked with !!										
<i>ma</i> <sup>1</sup> !V1!		+						+		
<i>ma</i> <sup>1</sup> !V4!		+	+					+		<u>r</u>
<i>ma</i> <sup>1</sup> !V5!	+								+	
<i>soo</i> <sup>1</sup> <i>ma</i> <sup>1</sup> !V5!		+		+					+	
<i>míyāa</i> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V1 <sup>C</sup> !		+						+		
<i>míyāa</i> <i>aan</i> <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V2 <sup>C</sup> !		+							+	
<i>soo</i> <sup>1</sup> <i>míyāa</i> <i>aan</i> <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V2 <sup>C</sup> !		+		+					+	<u>r</u>
<i>soo</i> <sup>1</sup> !V6!	+				+			+		<u>r</u>
<i>waa</i> <sup>1</sup> !V1!	+							+		
<i>waa</i> <sup>1</sup> <i>aan</i> <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V2 <sup>C</sup> !	+								+	<u>r</u>
<i>yaan</i> <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V7 <sup>C</sup> !						+			+	
<i>ha</i> <sup>1</sup> !V8!						+		+		
<i>ha</i> <sup>1</sup> !V9!							+		+	

The formulaic statements given in Table III above are illustrated in the remaining part of this section by very short sentences with a limited vocabulary. The aim of these examples is merely to demonstrate how these statements were arrived at and how they can be applied. More varied examples, drawn from wider contexts, are given in Section XII.

The recurrent vocabulary items in the examples below are as follows:

<i>āwr</i> (n.m.)	'a he-camel'
<i>kēen</i> (v.Z)	'to bring'
<i>maxāy</i> (inter.w.II)	'what?'
<i>uu</i> (3sg.m.subj.pron.)	'he'

Each example is given a serial number and is annotated. Note that in the translation of examples the semantic function of heralding later emphasis is not shown owing to the difficulties of rendering it in English without recourse to circumlocution; its presence or its absence can be deduced from the formulae at the end of each annotation.

- /1/    *Àwr bûu keenay.*  
          'He brought (!)a he-camel(!).'  
          *àwr* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
          *bûu* = *bâa* + *uu*  
          *bâa* (ind.)  
          *uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
          *keenay* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)  
          ICC = !N1! *bâa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>  
                 N1 = *àwr*  
                 N2 = *uu*  
                 V1 = *keenay*
- /2/    *Muxûu keenay?*  
          '(!)What(!) did he bring?'  
          *muxûu* = *maxây* + *bâa* + *uu*<sup>13</sup>  
          *maxây* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
          *bâa*  
          *uu*            as in /1/  
          *keenay*  
          ICC = !N1! *bâa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>  
                 N1 = *maxây*  
                 N2 =  
                 V1 = as in /1/
- /3/    *Ma àwr bûu keenay?*  
          'Did he bring (!)a he-camel(!)?'  
          *ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
          *àwr*  
          *bûu*  
          *bâa*            as in /1/  
          *uu*  
          *keenay*  
          ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N3! *bâa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>  
                 N3 = *àwr*  
                 N2 =  
                 V1 = as in /1/
- /4/    *Wûxuu keenay àwr.*  
          'He brought (!)a he-camel(!).'  
          *wûxuu* = *wâxa uu*  
          *wâxa* (ind.)  
          *uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
          *keenay* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)  
          *àwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
          ICC = *wâxa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup> !N4!  
                 N2 = *uu*  
                 V1 = *keenay*  
                 N4 = *àwr*

<sup>13</sup>Note that uncontracted sequences of *maxây* + *bâa* do not occur.



- /5/ *Ma wāxuu keenay āwr?*  
 'Did he bring (!) a he-camel(!)?'  
*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
*wāxuu*  
*wāxa*  
*uu* as in /4/  
*keenay*  
*āwr*  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> *wāxa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup> !N4!  
 N2 =  
 V1 = as in /4/  
 N4 =
- /6/ *Āwr bāanu kēenīn.*  
 'He did not bring (!) a he-camel(!).'  
*āwr* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
*bāanu* = *bāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *uu*  
*bāa* (ind.)  
*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*kēenīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)  
 ICC = !N1! *bāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>  
 N1 = *āwr*  
 N2 = *uu*  
 V2 = *kēenīn*
- /7/ *Ma āwr bāanu kēenīn?*  
 'Did he not bring (!) a he-camel(!)?'  
*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
*āwr*  
*bāanu*  
*bāa*  
*aan*<sup>1</sup> as in /6/  
*uu*  
*kēenīn*  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N3! *bāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>  
 N3 = *āwr*  
 N2 =  
 V2 = as in /6/
- /8/ *Wāxaanu kēenīn āwr.*  
 'He did not bring (!) a he-camel(!).'  
*wāxaanu* = *wāxa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *uu*  
*wāxa* (ind.)  
*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*kēenīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)  
*āwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
 ICC = *wāxa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> !N4!  
 N2 = *uu*  
 V2 = *kēenīn*  
 N4 = *āwr*
- /9/ *Āwr bāa keenāy.*  
 '(!) A he-camel(!) brought it (etc.).'

àwr (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
 bāa (ind.)  
 keenāy (3sg.m.past gen.res.)  
 ICC = !N5<sup>C</sup>! bāa V3<sup>C</sup>  
     N5 = àwr  
     V3 = keenāy

/10/ Ma àwr bāa keenāy?  
 'Did (!)a he-camel(!) bring it (etc.)?'  
 ma<sup>!</sup> (ind.); ma (pos.var.)  
 àwr  
 bāa as in /9/  
 keenāy  
 ICC = ma<sup>!</sup> !N6<sup>C</sup>! bāa V3<sup>C</sup>  
     N6 = àwr  
     V3 = keenāy

/11/ Àwr miyāa keenāy?  
 'Did (!)a he-camel(!) bring it (etc.)?'  
 àwr (smp.stg.clo.cfg.)  
 miyāa (ind.)  
 keenāy (3sg.m.past gen.res.)  
 ICC = !N6<sup>C</sup>! miyāa V3<sup>C</sup>  
     N6 =  
     V3 = as in /10/

/12/ Wāxa keenāy àwr.  
 '(!)A he-camel(!) brought it (etc.).'  
 wāxa (ind.)  
 keenāy (3sg.m.past gen.res.)  
 àwr (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
 ICC = wāxa V3<sup>C</sup> !N7<sup>C</sup>!  
     V3 = keenāy  
     N7 = àwr

/13/ Àwr bāan kgenīn.  
 '(!)A he-camel(!) did not bring it (etc.).'  
 àwr (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
 bāan = bāa + aan<sup>!</sup>  
 bāa (ind.)  
 aan<sup>!</sup> (neg.ptc.)  
 kgenīn (neg.pres.-past gen.)  
 ICC = !N5<sup>C</sup>! bāa aan<sup>!</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>  
     N5 = àwr  
     V2 = kgenīn

/14/ Ma àwr bāan kgenīn?  
 'Did not (!)a he-camel(!) bring it (etc.)?'  
 ma<sup>!</sup> (ind.); ma (pos.var.)  
 àwr  
 bāan as in /13/  
 bāa  
 aan<sup>!</sup>  
 kgenīn

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N6<sup>C</sup>! *bāa aan*<sup>1</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>  
 N6 = *āwr*  
 V2 = *kēenīn*

/15/ *Wāxāan kēenīn āwr.*  
 '(!)A he-camel(!) did not bring it (etc.).'

*wāxāan* = *wāxa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup>  
*wāxa* (ind.)  
*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)  
*kēenīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)  
*āwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
 ICC = *wāxa aan*<sup>1</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> !N7<sup>C</sup>!  
 V2 = *kēenīn*  
 N7 = *āwr*

/16/ *Waa āwr.*  
 'It is (!)a he-camel(!).'

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *waa* (pos.var.)  
*āwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
 ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> !N8!  
 N8 = *āwr*

/17/ *Ma āwr bāa?*  
 'Is it (!)a he-camel(!)?'

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
*āwr* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
*bāa* (ind.)  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N9! *bāa*  
 N9 = *āwr*

/18/ *Āwr miyāa?*  
 'Is it (!)a he-camel(!)?'

*āwr* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
*miyāa* (ind.)  
 ICC = !N10! *miyāa*  
 N10 = *āwr*

/19/ *Waa īnuu keenaa.*  
 'It is necessary (!)that he should bring it (etc.)(!).'

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *waa* (pos.var.)  
*īnuu keenaa* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
*īnuu* = *īn* + *uu*  
*īn* (decl.ptc.) 'that'  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*keenaa* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.B)  
 ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> !N8!  
 N8 = *īnuu keenaa*

/20/ *Ma īnuu keenaa bāa?*  
 'Is it necessary (!)that he should bring it (etc.)(!)?'

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
*īnuu keenaa* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*ĩnuu*  
*ĩn* as in /19/  
*uu*  
*keenaa*  
*bāa* (ind.)  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N9! *bāa*  
 N9 = *ĩnuu keenaa*

/21/ *āwr wḡeyē*.  
 'It is (!)a he-camel(!).'  
*āwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
*wḡeyē* (ind.)  
 ICC = !N11! *wḡeyē*  
 N11 = *āwr*

/22/ *ĩnuu keenaa wḡeyē*.  
 'It is necessary (!)that he should bring it (etc.)(!).'  
*ĩnuu keenaa* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
*ĩnuu*  
*ĩn* as in /19/  
*uu*  
*keenaa*  
*wḡeyē* (ind.)  
 ICC = !N11! *wḡeyē*  
 N11 = *ĩnuu keenaa*

/23/ *wāxa wḡeyē āwr*.  
 'It is (!)a he-camel(!).'  
*wāxa* (ind.)  
*wḡeyē* (ind.)  
*āwr* (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)  
 ICC = *wāxa wḡeyē* !N7!  
 N7 = *āwr*

/24/ *Mā keenay?*  
 '(!)Did(!) he (etc.) (!)bring(!) it (etc.)?'  
*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *mā* (pos.var.)  
*keenay* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !V1!  
 V1 = *keenay*

/25/ *Ma kḡentid?*  
 It is very difficult to translate this sentence into English without recourse to circumlocution. The nearest equivalent might be: 'Why don't you bring it (etc.)?' or 'It might be a good thing for you to bring it (etc.)!' Note that in Somali this is a positive rhetorical question encouraging the listener to perform the action denoted by the emphasized V unit.  
*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)  
*kḡentid* (2sg.rhet.)  
 ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !N4!  
 V4 = *kḡentid*

Note that in the majority of examples of this ICC which I have found, the ind. *ma*<sup>1</sup> is followed by and combined with a subj.pron. Thus the more normal version of this

sentence would be *Maad k̥ēntid?*, where *maad* = *ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.) + *aad* (2sg.subj.pron.). Both have the same meaning.

/26/ *Mā k̥ēnīn.*

'He (etc.) (!)did not bring(!) it (etc.).'

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *mā* (pos.var.)

*k̥ēnīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !V5!

V5 = *k̥ēnīn*

/27/ *Soo mā k̥ēnīn?*

'(!)Did(!) he (etc.) (!)not bring(!) it (etc.)?' This sentence also implies:  
'Of course, he (etc.) brought it (etc.).'

*soo*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *soo* (pos.var.)

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *mā* (pos.var.)

*k̥ēnīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

ICC = *soo*<sup>1</sup> *ma*<sup>1</sup> !V5!

V5 = *k̥ēnīn*

/28/ *Miyūu keenay?*

'(!)Did(!) he (!)bring(!) it (etc.)?'

*miyūu* = *miyāa* + *uu*

*miyāa* (ind.)

*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)

*keenay* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)

ICC = *miyāa* N2<sup>C</sup> !V1<sup>C</sup>!

N2 = *uu*

V1 = *keenay*

/29/ *Miyāanu k̥ēnīn?*

'(!)Did(!) he (!)not bring(!) it (etc.)?'

*miyāanu* = *miyāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *uu*

*miyāa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)

*k̥ēnīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

ICC = *miyāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> !V2<sup>C</sup>!

N2 = *uu*

N2 = *k̥ēnīn*

/30/ *Soo miyāanu k̥ēnīn?*

'(!)Did(!) he (!)not bring(!) it (etc.)?' This sentence also implies:  
'Of course, he brought it (etc.).'

*soo*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *soo* (pos.var.)

*miyāanu*

*miyāa*

*aan*<sup>1</sup> as in /29/

*uu*

*k̥ēnīn*

ICC = *soo*<sup>1</sup> *miyāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> !V2<sup>C</sup>!

N2 =

V2 = as in /29/

Note that this ICC is very rare and some speakers regard it as grammatically substandard.

- /31/ *Sōo keenee.*  
 'He (etc.) (!)is likely to bring(!) it (etc.).'  
*soo*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *sōo* (pos.var.)  
*keenee* (3sg.m. or 1sg.poten.)  
 ICC = *soo*<sup>1</sup> !V6!  
 V6 = *keenee*
- /32/ *Wāa keenay.*  
 'He (etc.) (!)brought(!) it (etc.).'  
*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *wāa* (pos.var.)  
*keenay* (3sg.m. or 1sg.past gen.ext.)  
 ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> !V1!  
 V1 = *keenay*
- /33/ *Wāanu kēenīn.*  
 'He (!)did not bring(!) it (etc.).'  
*wāanu* = *waa*<sup>1</sup> + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *uu*  
*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.)  
*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*kēenīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)  
 ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>  
 N2 = *uu*  
 V2 = *kēenīn*
- /34/ *Yāanu kēenīn!*  
 '(!)Let(!) him (!)not bring(!) it (etc.).' or '(!)May(!) he (!)not bring(!) it (etc.).'  
*yāanu* = *yaan*<sup>1</sup> + *uu*  
*yaan*<sup>1</sup> (ind.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*kēenīn* (neg.opt.)  
 ICC = *yaan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> !V7C!  
 N2 = *uu*  
 V7 = *kēenīn*
- /35/ *Hā keeno!*  
 '(!)Let(!) him (etc.) (!)bring(!) it (etc.).' or '(!)May(!) he (!)bring(!) it (etc.).'  
*ha*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *hā* (pos.var.)  
*keeno* (3sg.m.optat.)  
 ICC = *ha*<sup>1</sup> !V8!  
 V8 = *keeno*
- /36/ *Ha kēenīna!*  
 '(!)Do not bring(!) it (etc.).'  
*ha*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ha* (pos.var.)  
*kēenīna* (2pl.neg.imper.)  
 ICC = *ha*<sup>1</sup> !V9!

As far as I have been able to ascertain, Table III in this section gives all the ICCs in the language. Note, however, that I have left out the structure exemplified in MU 56: 36 by *hāsha ma bādh misē bādh* '[as for] the she-camel is it [the first] half [that I should speak about first] or [the other] half?'. My reason for doing so is that this structure may be

regarded as elliptical, as suggested in MU 56: 81. If this view is taken, the *ma bādh* part could be assumed to represent the two initial components of one of the following ICCs: *ma-<sup>1</sup> !N3! bāa N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>*, *ma-<sup>1</sup> !N6<sup>C</sup>! bāa V3<sup>C</sup>* or *ma-<sup>1</sup> !N9! bāa*.

It should also be observed that in the commonly occurring expression *wāa i kân* 'here I am' (used in answer to a call) the ICC is assumed to be *wāa !N8!*, where *N8* = *kân* (dem.m.). The component *i* (1sg.obj.pron.I) 'me' is regarded as extraneous to the ICC. I am aware that this is a tentative solution.

## Section VIII

### EXTENSIONS OF INDICATOR CENTRED CORES

In some sentences there are groups of words which precede ICCs and might be considered as their extensions. These extensions are identical with the initial parts of certain ICCs and are as follows:

- (i) *!N1! bāa*
- (ii) *!N1! bāa N2<sup>C</sup>*

The N units in these extensions normally refer to time. The ICCs which can be preceded by such extensions are:

- (a) those which begin with *!N1!*
- (b) " " " " *wāxa* and contain *V1<sup>C</sup>*
- (c) " " " " *!N5<sup>C</sup>!* " " *V3<sup>C</sup>*
- (d) " " " " *wāxa* " " *V3<sup>C</sup>*

The following combinations are possible:

$$(i) + \begin{cases} (a) \\ (b) \\ (c) \\ (d) \end{cases} \quad (ii) + \begin{cases} (a) \\ (b) \end{cases}$$

Examples:

- (i) + (a) *Mārkaasāa lībāax būu arkay.*  
 '(.)Then(.) he saw (.)a lion(.).'  
*mārkaasāa* = *mārkāas* + *bāa*  
*mārkāas* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg.,clo.cfg.) 'then' = *mār* + *kāas*  
*mār* (n.m.) 'time', 'point in time'  
*kāas* (dem.m.) 'that'  
*bāa* (ind.)  
*lībāax* (n.m.) 'a lion', - - - (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)  
*būu* = *bāa* + *uu*  
*bāa* (ind.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*ārag* (v.2) 'to see'; *arkay* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)

- (i) + (b) *Mārkaasāa wūxuu arkay lībāax.*  
 '(.)Then(.) he saw (.)a lion(.).'  
*mārkaasāa*, as in (i) + (a)  
*wūxuu* = *wāxa* + *uu*  
*wāxa* (ind.)

- uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*ārag*, *arkay*, as in (i) + (a)  
*lībāax* (n.m.) 'a lion'; - - - (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)
- (i) + (c) *Mārkaasāa lībāax bāa arkāy.*  
 '(!)Then(!) (!)a lion(!) saw him (etc.).'  
*mārkaasāa*, as in (i) + (a)  
*lībāax*, as in (i) + (a)  
*bāa* (ind.)  
*ārag* (v.Z) 'to see'; *arkāy* (esg.m.past gen.res.)
- (i) + (d) *Mārkaasāa wāxa arkāy lībāax.*  
 '(!)Then(!) (!)a lion(!) saw him (etc.).'  
*mārkaasāa*, as in (i) + (a)  
*wāxa* (ind.)  
*ārag*; *arkāy*, as in (i) + (c)  
*lībāax*, as in (i) + (b)
- (ii) + (a) *Mārkaasūu lībāax būu arkay.*  
 '(!)Then(!) he saw (!)a lion(!).'  
*mārkaas*, as in (i) + (a)  
*būu* = *bāa* + *uu*  
*bāa* (ind.)  
*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.)  
*lībāax*  
*būu* as in (i) + (a)  
*ārag*, *arkay*
- (ii) + (b) *Mārkaasūu wūxuu arkay lībāax.*  
 '(!)Then(!) he saw (!)a lion(!).'  
*mārkaasūu*, as in (ii) + (a)  
*wūxuu*, as in (i) + (b)  
*ārag*, *arkay*, as in (i) + (a)  
*lībāax*, as in (i) + (b)

It should be noted that examples (i) + (a), (i) + (b), (ii) + (a) and (ii) + (b) are nearly synonymous with each other. The same applies to examples (i) + (c) and (i) + (d).

In the examples in which the ind. *wāxa* occurs, however, the ICCs have the function of heralding (see Section VI); in the other examples this function is absent.

Note that extensions of ICCs occur rarely and are almost totally restricted to a leisurely narrative style.

For further discussion of sentences with two indicators see HE 65: 124-126.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup>It might be appropriate to mention here that I am in complete agreement with the emendation of Line 76 of Text 22 in MU 56: 49 suggested in HE 65: 125. The text is faulty due to an error in transcription.



## Section IX

## INDICATOR CENTRED CORES AND SENTENCE NUCLEI

During the initial period of my investigation into the rôles of indicators in Somali, which began some years ago, I expected that ICCs could be established as sentence nuclei in the sense used by Guthrie, i.e. as the smallest irreducible parts of the sentence (GU 61: 2-3). This, however, did not prove feasible on account of the difficulties which arise from certain properties found in some sentence components which enter into ICCs. Let us consider some of the most important cases.

Although prep.ptcs. cannot be established as constant components of ICCs, in some sentences their deletion would render the utterance meaningless. Take, for example,

*Cêelkîi bûu kâ keenay.*

'He brought it (etc.) from (!)the well(!).'

If *kâ* 'from' is deleted in this sentence it no longer remains meaningful.

A similar difficulty arises in the case of what I shall describe as the lexically interdependent phrase (abbreviated to lex.int.phr.). A phrase of this kind is characterized by the fact that its components have a joint meaning which cannot be fully related to the meanings they usually have in other contexts. Some components of lex.int.phrs. can be separated from each other by another word or words and this is indicated by the sign :: in the examples below, while some must follow one another without the possibility of such separation and this is indicated by the sign ::. In the examples below the "joint" meanings of lex.int.phrs. are compared with the usual meanings of their components.

*âqal* (n.m.):: *gâl* (v.Z) 'to begin cohabitation with one's bride or bridegroom'; cf. *âqal* (n.m.) 'a house', 'a hut' and *gâl* (v.Z) 'to enter'

*farô* (n.m.pl.):: *gêli* (v.IN) 'to interfere with'; cf. *farô* (n.m.pl.) 'fingers' and *gêli* (v.IN) 'to cause to enter'

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.):: *qâyb* (n.f.):: *gâl* (v.Z) 'to participate in [an activity]'; cf. *ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'from', *qâyb* (n.f.) 'a share [of something]' and *gâl* (v.Z) 'to enter'

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.):: *dhufo* (v.AN) 'to hit [someone or something] with [something]'; cf. *ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'with', 'by means of' and *dhufo* (v.AN) 'to pull'

There is also a similar problem when a verb which constitutes a V unit of an ICC is preceded by a noun used in what I shall refer to as preverbal mode (abbreviated to prev.mode). The formal characteristic of this mode is that the noun is immediately followed by a verb from which it cannot be separated by any other word; if we employ Zholkovsky's table of precedence of preverbal items the noun in prev.mode occupies position 11 (ZH 71: 222).

When a noun in prev.mode refers to a relative position in space it usually has a semantic function similar to that of such English words as 'near', 'among', 'under' etc. Consider, for example, the functions of the nouns *âg* (n.f.) 'vicinity', *dhêx* (n.f.) '[the] middle [part of something]' and *hōos* (n.f.) '[the] bottom [part of something]' in the sentences given below:

*Aqalkîi bûu âg fadhîistay.*

'He sat near (!)the house(!).'

*Dâdkîi bûu dhêx galay.*

'He went among (!)the people(!).' ('went', lit. 'entered')

*Gêedkîi bûu hōos jgogsaday.*

'He stopped under (!)the tree(!).'

A noun which does not refer to a relative position in space, when it occurs in prev.mode normally has the function of delineating the area of reference to which the state or the action denoted by the verb is applied.<sup>15</sup> This can be illustrated by the nouns *indhō* (n.m.pl.) 'eyes', *lacāg* (n.f.) 'money', *hādal* (n.m.) 'speech', 'words' and *qōsol* (n.m.) 'laughter' when they occur in prev.mode and are followed by forms of the verbs *bēel* (v.Z) 'to cease to possess' and *badān* (v.AN+) (in this context) 'to have a large quantity of', 'to abound in'.

*Wūu indhō beelay.*

'He (!)became blind(!).' Lit. 'He (!)ceased to possess(!) eyes.'

*Wuu lacāg beelay.*

'He (!)was left with no(!) money at all.' Lit. 'He (!)ceased to possess(!) money.'

*Wuu hādal badnaa.*

'He (!)was talkative(!).'

*Wuu qōsol badnaa.*

'He (!)was full of(!) laughter.'

The facts described above make it clear that the concept of ICC could not be equated with that of a sentence nucleus on account of the difficulties which would arise in establishing the "irreducible minimum" content of sentences containing a lex.int.phr. or a noun in prev.mode.

#### Section X ABSENCE OF INDICATORS

A sentence has no indicator under the following conditions:

- (i) when its main verb belongs to any paradigm listed in column 0 in Table II, Section IV;
- (ii) when its main verb belongs to the paradigm given in column 6 in Table II, Section IV, and when, at the same time, the sentence is a proverb or an expression using obviously archaic diction, e.g. *Nooli kulantee*. 'A person who is alive is likely to meet [another person who is alive].', where *kulantee* 'is likely to meet' is a V6 form;
- (iii) when it contains the inter.w.IV or the inter.w.VII;
- (iv) when its main verb consists of an inf. followed by a form of the auxiliary verb *māyō* (BE 53: 66); note that Moreno's materials suggest that this auxiliary verb is a compound in which the first component is *ma-* (ind.) and the second is the verb *hāy* (v.IN) 'to hold', 'to continue [to do something]' (MO 55: 270).

The absence of an indicator can be an optional alternative to the presence of *bāa* (*ayāa*, *yāa*) when the N1 or N5 unit which precedes it consists of an inter.def. or nom.aggr.II, e.g.

*Kēe bāa la cunaa?*

'Which one does one eat?'

*Kēe la cunaa?*

(The same meaning as above.)

<sup>15</sup>Sometimes a noun of this type in prev.mode can be replaced by a nom.aggr.I composed of the noun + def.art.gen (form A). The conditions under which this happens require further, extensive investigation.

*Awrkêe baa cunā?*

'Which he-camel eats it?'

*Awrkêe cunā?*

(The same meaning as above.)

In addition, indicators may be absent in unfinished sentences or when the speaker changes his mind in the middle of the sentence and begins another construction. They are also absent in elliptical sentences, such as short answers to questions, e.g. *Biyo*. 'Water.', in answer to the question *Maxâad dōonaysaa?* 'What do you want?' Particularly frequent is the elliptical question *Magacāa?* 'Your name?'

Similarly, indicators may be absent in short ejaculatory expressions, e.g. *Yaab!* 'How amazing!', *Wegēr!* 'Beware!'

For a further discussion of the absence of indicators readers are referred to HE 65. Of particular importance are the observations made in that article which concern the absence of *baa* in interrogative sentences (HE 65: 128).

#### Section XI

#### RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY OF INDICATOR CENTRED CORES TO OTHER AREAS OF SOMALI SYNTAX

The study of ICCs, as I hope has been demonstrated, is essential for our understanding of the rôles of indicators. It can also be relevant to the description of other aspects of Somali syntax, since it provides a readily recognizable framework of reference applicable to the majority of sentences. In this section I shall endeavour to show how this framework of reference can be employed to handle some specific problems.

It is a puzzling characteristic of Somali that in a sentence which contains a subj.pron. as the subject of the verb another item can occur to which that subj.pron. refers. Both the subj.pron. and the additional item stand in concord with the same verb, e.g.

*Nīnkani āwr būu keenay.*

'This man brought (!)a he-camel(!).'

In this sentence both *nīnkani* 'this man' and *uu* (in *būu* which = *baa* + *uu*) 'he' stand in concord with the verbal form *keenay* 'brought', so that the literal translation could be 'This man he brought (!)a he-camel(!).'

The additional subject can consist of any of the items listed under N2 in Table I, Section IV, with the only exception of the impers.pron. The position of such an item in the sentence depends on the context of the subj.pron. Two contexts have to be recognized:

- (i) when the subj.pron. occurs as N2<sup>C</sup>, as part of an ICC, and
- (ii) when the subj.pron. occurs in the position marked [X] in the ICCs listed below:
  - ma!* [X] !V1!
  - ma!* [X] !V4!
  - ma!* [X] !V5!
  - soo!* *ma!* [X] !V5!
  - uaa!* [X] !V1!

The additional subject can occur:

- (a) Either before the first or after the last component of the ICC when the subj.pron. is either in context (i) or (ii)



*rāgga keenā*

'the men who bring it (etc.)'

*Rāgga keenā ū yēdh.*

'Call the men who bring it (etc.)!'

*Rāgga keenaa mā jōogaan?*

'(!)Are(!) the men who bring it (etc.) (!)present(!)?'

A similar procedure can be applied to a nom.cl. which contains a divergent dependent verbal clause, i.e. a clause the headword of which does not stand in concord with its verb. A nom. cl. of this kind can be derived from a sentence in which the ICC is 'N1' *bāa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>, provided that the N1 is one of the items enumerated in the formulation relating to N5 given above.

The rules of derivation consist of:

- (a) deleting the ind. *bāa*, and
- (b) substituting V1 by a corresponding form of a dvg. (divergent) or dep.inf. paradigm. The distribution of the A and B form of dvg. paradigms is determined by the same factors as the case of cvg. paradigms.

Examples:

*Hilib būu keenaa.*

'He brings (!)meat(!).'

*hilib uu keenō*

'meat which he brings'

*Hilibkūu keenaa.*

'He brings (!)the meat(!).'

, where *hilibkūu* = *hilibka* 'the meat' + *uu* 'he'

*hilibkūu keenō*

'the meat which he brings', where *hilibkūu* = *hilibka* 'the meat' + *uu* 'he'

*Hilibkūu keenō cūn.*

'Eat the meat which he brings.'

*Hilibkūu keenaa waa qāali.*

'The meat which he brings is (!)an expensive commodity(!).'

Nom.cls. containing negative dependent verbal clauses can be derived from sentences in which the ICC is either 'N5<sup>C</sup>' *bāa aan*<sup>1</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> or 'N1' *bāa aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> by similar procedures.

## Section XII

### EXAMPLES OF INDICATOR CENTRED CORES DRAWN FROM WIDER CONTEXTS

The aim of this section is to illustrate the formulations concerning ICCs by examples drawn from wider contexts such as plays, narratives, newspaper articles and proverbs.

Each example is provided with extensive annotations which are designed to enable the reader not familiar with Somali to account for each component of the sentence and for all the important relationships between these components. The text of each example is provided with a

translation in which, unlike in the previous examples, emphasis is not marked by means of exclamation marks in brackets. It is left to the reader to arrive at the information by referring to the analyses of the ICCs provided at the end of each group of annotations. After the translation an indication of the source is given and a brief account of the context from which the example was taken, with the view of giving a clear delineation of its meaning.

Lexical information is provided for each word in every example. Representative forms of nouns and verbs are given first and are followed by explanations concerning the forms which actually occur in the text. The same procedure is applied to all other word classes and it is to be assumed that the forms given in the lists in Section II are their representative forms. If the representative form of a word is identical with its form in the text the sign - - - is used in the annotation. For all abbreviations used in the annotations see Sections II-V.

Furthermore, all aggregates and clusters (see Section III) are accounted for in the annotations. I am aware of the fact that such information is often only of marginal relevance to the main theme of this article but I have been reluctant to leave it out since it contains some points of interest which may inspire some readers to undertake further research and to embark on further theoretical speculation. This would be particularly welcome in the areas of grammar to which I have applied the concepts of setting, configuration and case. I hope that perhaps other researchers who may be attracted to handle these challenging problems in Somali will produce a set of neater formulations than those available at present.

Each example is preceded by a figure which refers to the index in Section XIII arranged according to the ICCs which the annotated examples illustrate. It should be noted that the examples given in this section do not cover the whole range of ICCs. The annotated texts in MU 56 may serve as further illustrations, even though the annotations given there do not include analyses of ICCs.

/1/ *Doqōn milantāy iyo gēsi mallāafsi bartāa miidaani kâ dhēx dhacdaa.*

'A mighty battle [usually] breaks out between simple people who have become submissive and a bold man who has grown accustomed to bullying [them].' Proverb. This proverb asserts that the meek if driven beyond the limits of their endurance become formidable fighters against their oppressors.

*doqōn.....bartāa* = *doqōn.....bartāy* + *bāa*

*doqōn.....bartāy* (nom.cl./smp.stg., clo.cfg.) 'simple people who have become submissive and a bold man who has grown accustomed to bullying [them]'

*doqōn milantāy* (nom.cl./intg.stg., cct.cfg.) 'simple people who have become submissive'

*dōqon* (n.m.) 'a simple person', 'a fool'; *doqōn* (n.f. sub-pl.) 'simple people', 'fools'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*mīlan* (v.Z) 'to melt', 'to become weak', 'to become submissive'; *milantāy* (3sg.f.past gen.cvg.A)

*iyo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *iyo* (pos.var.)

*gēsi.....bartāy* (nom.cl./intg.stg., clo.cfg.) 'a bold man who has grown accustomed to bullying [them]'

*gēsi* (n.m.) 'a brave man', 'a bold man'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*mallāafsi* (n.m.) 'bullying', 'intimidation'; - - - (intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

*barō* (v.AN) 'to learn', 'to grow accustomed to'; *bartāy* (3sg.m.past gen.cvg.A)

*bāa* (ind.)

*miidāan* (n.f.) 'a large open area', 'a large battlefield', 'a mighty battle';

*miidaani* (smp.stg., ope.cfg. case B)

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'at'; *kā* (pos.var.)

*dhēx* (n.f.) '[the] middle [part of something]'; - - - (smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A); note that *dhēx* occurs here in prev.mode and has the meaning 'between'

*dhāc* (v.Z) 'to fall', 'to occur', 'to break out'; *dhacdaa* (3sg.f.pres.gen.ext.)

ICC = 'N1! *bāa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>

N1 = *doqōn*.....*bartāy*

N2 = *miidaani*

V1 = *dhacdaa*

/2/ *Gōormāan imaaddaa?*

'When shall I come?' AL 66: 10. The character in the play asks the girl whom he is courting when he could visit her again. At this point he has to leave her in a hurry because of the unexpected arrival of her father, who disapproves of him, in the courtyard of the house.

*gōormāan* = *gōorma* + *bāa* + *aan*

*gōorma* (inter.w.I) 'when?'; cf. *gōor* (n.f.) 'time'

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan* (1sg.subj.pron.)

*yimi* (v.STR) 'to come'; *imaaddaa* (1sg.pres.gen.ext.); note that the forms of the pres. gen.ext. paradigm frequently convey future time reference when they are used in questions.

ICC = 'N1! *bāa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>

N1 = *gōorma*

N2 = *aan*

V1 = *imaaddaa*

/3/ *Ma sāsāan kū idhaahaa?*

'Shall I say [just] that to him?' AN and MJ 66: 37. In this traditional story a traveller is given an incomprehensible message to someone in a distant village. He is astonished by the wording and the brevity of the message and puts this question to the sender to confirm that he wants it to be transmitted in that form. The traveller does not know that the message is in a kind of secret code.

*ma'* (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)

*sāsāan* = *sīdaasāan* = *sīdāas* *bāan*

*sīdāas* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., clo.cfg.), (lit. 'that way' but note that this nom.aggr. refers to the contents of the message and not to the way in which it should be delivered) = *sī* + *tāas*

*sī* (n.f.) 'way', 'manner'

*tāas* (dem.f.) 'that'; - - - (form A)

*bāan* = *bāa* + *aan*

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan* (1sg.subj.pron.)

*ku'* (prep.ptc.) 'to'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*yidhi* (v.STR) 'to say'; *idhaahaa* or *idhaahdaa* (1sg.pres.gen.ext.); note that the forms of the pres.gen.ext. paradigm frequently convey future time reference when they are used in questions.

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> 'N1' *bāa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>  
 N1 = *sīdāas*  
 N2 = *aan*  
 V1 = *idhaahaa*

/4/ *Warshadāynta iyo kallūunsigu wāxay noqōn doonaan xubnō wēyn oo dhaqaalēhēenna tiirīn doona.*

'Industrialization and fishing will become large sectors which will give support to our economy.' JA 74: 26 June, 2. A statement in an article about the importance of these two sectors of Somali economy.

*warshadāynta iyo kallūunsigu* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B)

*warshadāynta* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *warshadāyn* + *ta*

*warshadāyn* or *warshadēyn* (n.f.) 'industrialization'; cf. *warshād* (n.f.) 'factory' and *warshadēe* (v.AYN) 'to industrialize'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*iyo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *iyo* (pos.var.)

*kallūunsigu* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *kallūunsi* + *ku*

*kallūunsi* (n.m.) 'fishing'; cf. *kallūun* (n.m.) 'fish'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); *ku* (form B)

*wāxay* = *wāxa ay*

*wāxa* (ind.)

*ay* (3pl.subj.pron.) 'they' (i.e. 'industrialization and fishing')

*noqō* (v.ON) 'to become'; *noqōn* (inf.)

*dōon* (v.Z) an auxiliary verb used here with the inf. form *noqōn*, conveying future time reference; *doonaan* (3p.pres.gen.ext.)

*xubnō.....doonā* (nom.cl./smp.stg., neu.cfg.) lit. 'sectors which are large and which will give support to our economy'

*xubīn* (n.f.) 'a joint [of a limb]', 'member', 'sector'; *xubnō* (n.m.pl.); *xubnō* (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*wēyn* (v.Z+) 'to be large'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*oo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *oo* (pos.var.)

*dhaqaalēhēenna* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg. case A = *dhaqāale* + *kēen*<sup>1</sup> + *ka*

*dhaqāale* (n.m.) 'economy', 'thrift'

*kēen*<sup>1</sup> (1pl.incl.poss.def.m.) 'our'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*tiirī* (v.IN) 'to give support to', 'to prop', *tiirīn* (inf. dep.)

*dōon* (v.Z) an auxiliary verb used here with the inf. form *tiirīn*, conveying future time reference; *doonā* (3pl.pres.gen.cvg.A)

ICC = *wāxa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup> 'N4'

N2 = *ay*

V1 = *noqōn doonaan*

N4 = *xubnō.....doonā*

/5/ *Mārkāa mā wāxaad dōonaysaa īnaan fīkrād hālkāa kāa siiyō?*

'Then do you want me to give you an opinion about that point?', lit. 'Then do you want that I should give you an opinion about that point?' HA 66: 3. A character in the play



puts this question to a friend who has come to seek his advice on how to elope with a girl at night from her father's house. The friend states that the girl's father is kept awake by a chronic cough and that he keeps a watch dog.

*mārkāa* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg.ope.cfg., case A) 'then', 'in that case' = *mār* + *kāa*

*mār* (n.m.) 'time', 'point in time'

*kāa* (dem.m.); - - - (form A)

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)

*wāxaad* = *wāxa* *aad*

*wāxa* (ind.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*dōon* (v.2) 'to want', 'to seek'; *dōonaysaa* or *dōoneysaa* (2sg.pres.cnt.ext.)

*īnaan.....sīiyō* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.) 'that I should give you an opinion about that point'

*īnaan* = *īn* + *aan* .

*īn* (decl.ptc.) 'that'

*aan* (1sg.subj.pron.)

*fīkrād* (n.f.) 'opinion', 'thought', 'idea'; - - - (intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

*hālkāa* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *hāl* + *kāa*

*hāl* (n.m.) 'a point [in a discussion]'

*kāa* (dem.m.); - - - (form A)

*kāa* = *ku* + *ka*<sup>1</sup>

*ku* (2sg.obj.pron.I)

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'about', 'concerning'

*sīi* (v.IN) 'to give'; *sīiyō* (1sg.pres.gen.dvg.A)

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> *wāxa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup> !N4!

N2 = *aad*

V1 = *dōonaysaa*

N4 = *īnaan.....sīiyō*

/6/ *Arlādāasna dameerāa iyo ēyda iyo baqāalku waa kū qāali, maxāa yeelāy gēel bāanay lahayn.*

'And in that country donkeys, dogs and mules are an expensive commodity because they do not have camels.' MU 56: 48. From a traditional adventure story concerning Cigaal Bowkax, a well known Somali traveller and wit who once went to South Africa. He was astonished by the high price of domestic animals and attributed it to the total absence of camels which he had observed. By 'they' are meant the inhabitants of the country.

*arladāasna* = *arladāas* *na*

*arladāas* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *ārlo* + *tāas*

*ārlo* (n.f.) 'country'

*tāas* (dem.f.) 'that'; - - - (form A)

*na*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *na* (pos.var.)

*dameerāa.....baqāalku* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) 'donkeys, dogs and mules'

*dameerāa* = *dameerāha*

*dameerāha* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *dameerō* + *ka*

*damēer* (n.f.) 'a she-donkey'; *dameerō* (n.m.plur.) 'she-donkeys' or 'donkeys of both sexes'; cf. *damēer* (n.m.) 'a he-donkey', *dameerō* (n.f.pl.) 'he-donkeys'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*īyo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *īyo* (pos.var.)

*ēyda* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *ēy* + *ta*

*ēy* (n.m.) 'a dog'; *ēy* (n.f.sub-pl.) 'dogs'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*īyo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *īyo* (pos.var.)

*baqāalku* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *baqāal* + *ku*

*baqāal* (n.m.coll.) 'mules'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); *kū* (form B)

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *waa* (pos.var.)

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *ku* (pos.var.)

*qāali* (n.m.) 'an expensive commodity', 'high price'; - - - (smp.stg., neu.cfg.)

*maxāa* = *maxāy* + *bāa*

*maxāy* (inter.w.II):: *bāa* (ind.)... *yeelāy* (3sg.m.past gen.res. of *yēel*, v.Z), (lex.int.phr.) 'because'

*maxāy* (inter.w.II) component of the above lex.int.phr.; note that in other contexts it means 'what?'

*bāa* (ind.) component of the above lex.int.phr.

*yēel* (v.Z) component of the above lex.int.phr.; note that in other contexts it means 'to do' or 'to accept'

*gēel* (n.m.coll.) 'camels'; - - - (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*bāanay* = *bāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *ay*

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*ay* (3pl.subj.pron.)

*lēh* or *lē* (v.Z+) 'to have'; *lahāyn* (neg.pres.-past.)

*Arlādāasna*.....*lahāyn*, note that this example consists of three sentences:

(1) *Arlādāasna*.....*qāali*.

(2) *Maxāa yeelāy*.

(3) *Gēel*.....*lahāyn*.

ICC (1) = *waa*<sup>1</sup> 'N8'

N8 = *qāali*

ICC (2) = 'N5<sup>C</sup>' *bāa* V3<sup>C</sup>

N5 = *maxāy*

V3 = *yeelāy*

ICC (3) = 'N1' *bāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>

N1 = *gēel*

N2 = *ay*

V2 = *lahāyn*

/7/ *Wāxāan shaki kū jirīn haddī sī wacān lōo ururiyō xābāgta dālka lagā helō in lacāg farabadān loogā hēli doonō tāasōo kaalīn wēyn kā gēysān doontā horumarīnta dhaqaalāha.*

'There is no doubt that if one collects in a proper way the gum which one finds in the country one will get much money from it for [the country], [it being] that which will bring great help to the development of the economy.' JA 74: 26 June, 3. From an article about the cultivation of gum in Somalia.

*wāxāan* = *wāxa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup>

*wāxa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*shāki* (n.m.) 'doubt'; *shaki* (smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B)

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*jir* (v.Z) 'to be', 'to exist'; *jirūn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

*haddi*.....*helō* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg. case A) 'if one collects in a proper way the gum which one finds in the country'

*haddi* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) 'if', [under] the condition [that]' = *had* + *tii*  
*had* (n.f.) 'condition', 'circumstance'; note that the occurrence of this word is limited to nom.cl., in which it functions as the headword of a divergent dependent verbal clause; note also that it has an irregular accentual pattern for a sg.fem.noun not ending in -o (see AN 64a: 32-33); *had* should not be confused with *hād* (n.f.) 'time', 'present time'.

*tii* (def.art.rem.f.); - - - (form A)

*sī wacān* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'a way which is proper'

*sī* (n.f.) 'way', 'manner'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*wacān* (v.AN+) 'to be proper', 'to be good'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*lōo* = *la* + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*la* (impers.pron.) 'someone', 'one', 'people'

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'according to'

*urūri* (v.IN) 'to collect', 'to gather'; *ururiyō* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.A)

*xabāgta*.....*helō* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'the gum which one finds in the country'

*xabāgta* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *xabāg* + *ta*

*xabāg* (n.f.) 'gum'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*dālka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *dāl* + *ka*

*dāl* (n.m.) 'country'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*lagā* = *la* + *ka*<sup>1</sup>

*la* (impers.pron.) 'someone', 'one', 'people'

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'from'

*hēl* (v.Z) 'to find'; *helō* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.A)

*īn*.....*doonō* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.) 'that one will get much money from it for [the country]'

*īn* (decl.ptc.) 'that'

*lacāg farabadān* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'money which is large in number'

*lacāg* (n.f.) 'money'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*farabadān* = *farā badān* = *farō badān*

*far* (n.f.) 'a finger'; *farō* (n.m.pl.) 'fingers'; - - - (intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

*badān* (v.AN†) 1. when preceded by a n. or a nom.aggr.I which is not its subject: 'to have a large number or quantity of what is denoted by that n. or nom.aggr.',  
2. in all other contexts: 'to be large in number or quantity'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*farō* (n.m.pl.) ∴ *badān* (v.AN), (lex.int.phr.) 'to be numerous', lit.(?) 'to have a large number of fingers'

*loogā* = *la* + *u*<sup>1</sup> + *ka*<sup>1</sup>

*la* (impers.pron.) 'someone', 'one', 'people'

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'to', 'for'

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'from'

*hēl* (v.Z) 'to find'; *hēli* (inf.dep.)

*dōon* (v.Z) an auxiliary verb used here with the inf.dep. form *hēli*, conveying future time reference; *doonō* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.A)

*tāasōo*.....*dhaqaalāha* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) '[it being] that which will give great help to the development of the economy'; note that *tāas* (dem.f.) when it is linked by *oo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) to the verbal clause dependent on it, has a semantic function similar to that of an absolute clause of attendant circumstance in English.

*tāasōo* = *tāas* + *oo*<sup>1</sup>

*tāas* (dem.f.) 'that'

*oo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and', 'while'; *ōo* (pos.var.), see MU 56: 77, Note 7a.

*kaalīn wēyn* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'help which is great'

*kaalīn* (n.f.) 'help', 'participating rôle', 'place', 'position'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*wēyn* (v.Z†) 'to be great', 'to be big'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'to'; *kā* (pos.var.)

*geysō* (v.IN/SAN) 'to bring for oneself (i.e. for one's own benefit)', 'to bring about', 'to cause'; *geysān* (inf.dep.)

*dōon* (v.Z) an auxiliary verb used here with the inf.dep. form *geysān*, conveying future time reference; *doontā* (3sg.f.pres.gen.cvg.A)

*horumarīnta dhaqaalāha* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'the development of the economy'

*horumarīnta* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *horumarīn* + *ta*

*horumarīn* (n.f.) 'development', 'progress', cf. *horē* (adv.n.I) 'forward', 'before', *u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'to' and *māri* (v.IN) 'to cause to pass'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*dhaqaalāha* (nom.aggr.I/sub.gnt.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *dhaqāale* + *ka*

*dhaqāale* (n.m.) 'economy', 'thrift'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

ICC = *wāxa aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> !N4!

N2 = *shaki*

V2 = *jirīn*

N4 = *īn*.....*doonō*

[8/ *Qawaanīnta cāynkāas āh wāxaanay sī wanaagsān ugū muuqān ama danāyn dādka aan hādalka kā fiirsān ee dāntōoduba tahāy īn la gartō wāxay ū jēedān.*

'[As for] the rules which are of that kind, they are not clearly apparent to or do not interest the people who do not reflect upon speech and whose concern is merely that one should understand what they mean.' AX 74: 5. From an article about the importance of linguistic research. The rules in question are those of grammar.

*qawaanīinta*.....*āh* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'the rules which are that kind'; note that in this context the nom.cl. could also occur in case B since it could stand in concord with the main verb. In case B the form *āh* would be replaced by *ahī* or *ihī*.

*qawaanīinta* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *qawaanīin* + *ta*

*qaynūun* (n.m.) 'rule', 'law'; *qawaanīin* (n.f.sub-pl.) 'rules', 'laws'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*cāynkāas* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *cāyn* + *kāas*

*cāyn* (n.m.) 'kind', 'type'

*kāas* (dem.m.) 'that'; - - - (form A)

*yghay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to belong to'; *āh* (pres.cvg.A); note that the final *h* in *āh* is not pronounced in this context but is written here in conformity with the usage of the Somali national orthography

*wāxaanay* = *wāxa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *ay*

*wāxa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*ay* (3pl.subj.pron.)

*sī wānaagsān* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'a way which is good', translated here as 'clearly'

*sī* (n.f.) 'way', 'manner'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*wānaagsān* (v.SAN<sup>+</sup>) 'to be good'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*ugū* = *u*<sup>1</sup> + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) refers here to *sī wānaagsān* and could be rendered as 'in': *sī wānaagsān* ∴ *u*<sup>1</sup> 'in a good way'

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'to'; this second prep.ptc. refers to *dādkha*.....*jgedāan*

*muuqō* (v.AN) 'to be visible', 'to be apparent'; *muuqān* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

*ama*<sup>1</sup> or *amma*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'or'

*danēe* (v.AYN) 'to interest', 'to concern', 'to be of advantage to'; *danāyn* or *danēyn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

*dādkha*.....*jgedāan* (nom.cl./smp.stg., neu.cfg.) 'the people who do not reflect upon speech and whose concern is merely that one should understand what they mean'

*dādkha* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *dād* + *ka*

*dād* (n.m.coll.) 'people'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*aan*.....*fiirsān*, a verbal clause dependent on *dādkha* as its headword, 'who do not reflect on speech'

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*hādalka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *hādal* + *ka*

*hādal* (n.m.) 'speech', 'words'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'upon', 'about'; *kā* (pos.var.)  
*fiirsō* (v.SAN) 'to reflect', 'to think', 'to consider carefully'; *fiirsān* (neg.pres.-past gen.dep.A)  
*ee*<sup>1</sup> or *e*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; *ee* (pos.var.)  
*dāntōduba*.....*jgedāan*, another verbal clause dependent on *dādka* as its headword, 'whose concern is merely that one should understand what they mean'  
*dāntōduba* = *dāntōdu ba*<sup>1</sup>  
*dāntōdu* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *dān* + *tgod*<sup>1</sup> + *tu*  
*dān* (n.f.) 'concern', 'interest'  
*tgod*<sup>1</sup> (3pl.poss.def.f.) 'their'; this poss.def. refers to *dādka*  
*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); *tu* (form B)  
*ba*<sup>1</sup> (distr.ptc.) 'altogether', 'merely', *ba* (pos.var.)  
*yahay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to consist of'; *tahāy* (3sg.f.pres.dvg.A)  
*īn*.....*jgedāan* (para-nom.cl.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg. case A) 'that one should understand what they mean'  
*īn* (decl.ptc.) 'that'  
*la* (impers.pron.) 'someone', 'one', 'people'  
*garō* (v.AN) 'to understand', 'to recognize'; *gartō* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.A)  
*wāxay ū jgedāan* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'the thing which they mean'  
*wāxay* = *wāxa ay*  
*wāxa* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *wāx* + *ka*  
*wāx* (n.m.) 'a thing', 'things'  
*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)  
*ay* (3pl.subj.pron.)  
*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) ∴ *jged* (v.Z), (lex.int.phr.) 'to mean', 'to intend'  
*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) component of the above lex.int.phr., *ū* (pos.var.)  
*jged* (v.Z) component of the above lex.int.phr., *jgedāan* (3pl.pres.gen.dvg.A); note that outside this lex.int.phr. this verb usually means 'to face [in a particular direction]'  
 ICC = *wāxa aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup> !N4!  
       N2 = *ay* (within *wāxaanay*)  
       V2 = *muuqān* or *danāyn*  
       N4 = *dādka*.....*jgedāan*

/9/ *Sirmaqabē Āllāw sâhan tagā.*

'God goes on reconnaissance for the man who has no evil secrets.' Proverb. This proverb is used when commenting on an innocent person's triumph when an attempt to harm him fails or false or hasty accusations are proved to be unfounded.

*sirmaqābe* (n.m.) 'a man who has no evil secrets', this is an imaginary descriptive name; cf. *sīr* (n.f.) 'secret', 'evil secret', *ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.), *qāb* (v.Z) 'to have' and the suffix -e which usually means 'the performer of the action described by the root' of the related verb', *sirmaqabē* (smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

*Āllāw* = *Ālle* + *bāa* + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*Ālle* or *Ālla* (n.m.) 'God'; *Ālle* (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*bāa* (ind.)

*u'* (prep.ptc.) 'for'

*sāhan* (n.m.) 'a reconnaissance which nomadic pastoralists send out to look for an area which has good grazing and water and is free from danger', 'the activities of such a reconnaissance'; - - - (smp.stg.ope.cfg., case A), used here in prev.mode, hence the translation 'on reconnaissance'

*tāg* (v.Z) 'to go'; *tagā* (3sg.m.pres.gen.res.)

ICC = !N5<sup>C</sup>! *bāa* V3<sup>C</sup>

N5 = *Ālle*

V3 = *tagā*

/10/ *Maxāa adāg?*

'What is difficult [about it]?' HA 66: 2. This question is put by a character in the play to his friend who plans an elopement and complains about the difficulties which could arise because of the watch dog kept by the girl's father.

*maxāa* = *maxāy* + *bāa*

*maxāy* (inter.w.II) 'what?'

*bāa* (ind.)

*adāg* (v.Z+) 'to be hard', 'to be difficult'; - - - (pres.res.)

ICC = !N5<sup>C</sup>! *bāa* V3<sup>C</sup>

N5 = *maxāy*

V3 = *adāg*

/11/ *Ma dhirtāa ina shēegaysā?*

'Will the trees report us?' AL 67: 2. This question is addressed by one of the thieves in the play to a new associate who is reluctant to admit what his real name is, even though the conversation is conducted in an isolated spot in the country.

*ma'* (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)

*dhirtāa* = *dhirta* + *bāa*

*dhirta* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., clo.cfg.) = *dhīr* + *ta*

*dhīr* (n.f.) 'trees', 'bushes'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*bāa* (ind.)

*ina* (lpl.incl.obj.pron.I) 'us'

*shēeg* (v.Z) 'to report', 'to tell'; *shēegaysā* or *shēegeysā* (3sg.f.pres.cnt.res.)

ICC = *ma'* !N6<sup>C</sup>! *bāa* V3<sup>C</sup>

N6 = *dhirta*

V3 = *shēegaysā*

/12/ *Wāxaan ku lēeyahay, cīd miyāa kulā socotāy?*

'I say, are you accompanied by anyone?', lit. 'I say to you, "Has a person walked with you?"' AL 66: 25. This question is put by a character in the play to a girl in a night club in the hope that she is free.

*wāxaan* = *wāxa* + *aan*

*wāxa* (ind.)

*aan* (1sg.subj.pron.)

*ku* (2sg.obj.pron.I)

*lēh* or *lē* (v.Z†) 'to be saying [something]', 'to be in the process of saying [something]';  
*lēēyahay* (1sg.pres.ext.)

*cīd*.....*socotāy* (quot.p./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'has a person walked with you?'

*cīd* (n.f.) 'people', 'persons', 'a person'; - - - (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*miyāa* (ind.)

*kulā* = *ku* + *la*<sup>1</sup>

*ku* (2sg.obj.pron.I)

*la*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'with'

*socō* (v.ON) 'to walk', 'to proceed'; *socotāy* (3sg.f.past gen.res.)

*Wāxaan*.....*socotāy*, note that this sentence contains a quot.p. which is a fully formed sentence itself.

ICC [of the whole sentence] = *wāxa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup> !N4!

N2 = *aan*

V1 = *lēēyahay*

N4 = *cīd*.....*socotāy*

ICC [of the quot.p.] = !N6<sup>C</sup>! *miyāa* V3<sup>C</sup>

N6 = *cīd*

V3 = *socotāy*

/13/ *Wāxa jīrā hādal āfkāaga kū xūn oo āfka walāalkāa kū wānaagsān.*

'There are words which are inappropriate in your own mouth but which are appropriate in the mouth of your brother.' Proverb. This proverb refers to delicate matters which are best handled by a brother or a friend rather than by the person directly concerned.

*wāxa* (ind.)

*jīr* (v.Z) 'to be', 'to exist'; *jīrā* (3sg.m.pres.gen.res.)

*hādal*.....*wānaagsān* (nom.cl./smp.stg., neu.cfg.)

*hādal* (n.m.) 'speech', 'words'; - - - (intg.stg. cct.cfg.)

*āfkāaga* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *āf* + *kaa*<sup>1</sup> + *ka*

*āf* (n.m.) 'mouth', 'language'

*kaa*<sup>1</sup> (2sg.poss.def.m.) 'your'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*xūn* (v.Z†) 'to be bad', 'to be inappropriate'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*oo*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and', 'but'; *oo* (pos.var.)

*āfka walāalkāa* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'the mouth of your brother'

*āfka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *āf* + *ka*

*āf* (n.m.) 'mouth', 'language'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)



*walāalkāa* (nom.aggr.I/sub.gnt.stg./ope.cfg., case A) = *walāal* + *kaa*<sup>1</sup>

*walāal* (n.m.) 'brother'

*kaa*<sup>1</sup> (2sg.poss.def.m.) 'your'

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*wanaagsān* (v.SAN+) 'to be good', 'to be appropriate'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

ICC = *wāxa* V3<sup>C</sup> !N7<sup>C</sup>!

V3 = *jirā*

N7 = *hādal*.....*wanaagsān*

/14/ *Wālee cid baan idinkā saarīn*!

'By God, no one can free you from it!' Lit. 'People do not free you from it!' AL 67: 12. These words are addressed to the thieves in the play who are caught in a trap-pit dug outside a house from which they were about to steal. The speaker is a member of a vigilante committee.

*Wālee* = *Wālle* + *e*<sup>1</sup>

*Wālle* (r.i.) 'By God!'; an interjection borrowed from Arabic

*e*<sup>1</sup> or *ee*<sup>1</sup> (conj.) 'and'; this conj. links *Wālle* to the rest of the sentence

*cid* (n.f.) 'people'; - - - (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*baan* = *bāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup>

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*idinkā* = *idīn* + *ka*<sup>1</sup>

*idīn* (2pl.obj.pron.I)

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.)... *sāar* (v.Z), (lex.int.phr.) 'to free from', 'to extract from'

*ka*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) component of the above lex.int.phr.

*sāar* (v.Z) component of the above lex.int.phr.; *saarīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.); note that outside this lex.int.phr. this verb means 'to put [something] on top of [something else]'

ICC = !N5<sup>C</sup>! *bāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>

N5 = *cid*

V2 = *saarīn*

/15/ *Hādalkīi duulāan Khadar hāleelīn*.

'[Even] Khadar does not recover words which have flown [away].'. A modern poetic version of the proverb *Wāx tēgāy Khadar mā hāleelō* '[Even] Khadar does not recover things which have passed.'

*hādalkīi duulāan* = *hādalkīi duulāy* + *bāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup>

*hādalkīi duulāy* (nom.cl./smp.stg., clo.cfg.) 'the words which have flown [away]'

*hādalkīi* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *hādal* + *kīi*

*hādal* (n.m.) 'speech', 'words'

*kīi* (def.art.rem.m.); - - - (form A)

*dūul* (v.Z) 'to fly'; *duulāy* (3sg.m.past gen.cvg.A)

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*Khādar* (n.m.) the name of a saintly person who according to Islamic traditions has been alive since the time of Moses; he is believed to come to people's aid even in very difficult situations, (for further information see HA 74: 26-27); *Khadar* (smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B)

*halēel* (v.Z) 'to recover', 'to find something that was lost'; *haleelīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

ICC = !N1! *bāa aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> V2<sup>C</sup>

N1 = *hādalkīi duulāy*

N2 = *Khadar*

V2 = *haleelīn*

/16/ *Nīn is ḡaanshay waa rī is nūugtāy.*

'A man who has praised himself is [like] a goat which has sucked herself.' Proverb. This proverb is used either to censure boasting or to provide an excuse for one's refusal to answer questions about one's achievements.

*nīn is ḡaanshay* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B)

*nīn* (n.m.) 'a man'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*is* (rec.pron.) 'self', 'oneself'

*ḡāni* (v.IN) 'to praise'; *ḡaanshay* or *ḡaanshey* = *ḡaniyay* or *ḡaniyey* (3sg.m.past gen. cvg.B)

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *waa* (pos.var.)

*rī is nūugtāy* (nom.cl./smp.stg., neu.cfg.)

*rī* (n.f.) 'a goat'; - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*is* (rec.pron.) 'self', 'oneself'

*nūug* (v.Z) 'to suck'; *nūugtāy* or *nūugtēy* (3sg.f.past gen.cvg.A)

ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> !N8!

N8 = *rī is nūugtāy*

/17/ *Wāa ayō?*

'Who is it?' AL 67: 7. A character in the play has an unexpected encounter with a man he does not know and, in an aside, he asks a friend for information.

*wāa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *wāa* (pos.var.)

*ayō* (inter.w.V/smp.stg., neu.cfg.)

ICC = *wāa*<sup>1</sup> !N8!

N8 = *ayō*

/18/ *Waar rēeryahaw ma nabād bāa?*

'Listen, o head of the family, is it peace?' AL 67: 3. These are the first words of a newcomer upon his arrival at a nomadic settlement and are addressed to the head of the family in the play.

*waar*<sup>1</sup> (r.i.) a word used for attracting the attention of a man or men, translated here as 'listen'; *waar* (pos.var.)

*rēeryahaw* = *rēer* + *yahaw*<sup>1</sup>

*rēer* (n.m.) 'a family', 'a settlement inhabited by members of one family', 'the head of such a settlement'

*-yahaw*<sup>1</sup> or *-yohow*<sup>1</sup>, a vocative suffix used with masculine nouns

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.)

*nabād* (n.f.) 'peace'; - - - (smp.stg. clo.cfg.)

*bāa* (ind.)

*ma nabād bāa*, note that this is a conventional form of greeting

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> 'N9' *bāa*

N9 = *nabād*

/19/ *Waa in marka horē naadiyāda lōo helaa māamul wanaagsān.*

'It is necessary that one should first get good management for the clubs.' JA 74: 1 August, 3. From an article which stresses the necessity of various improvements in the organization and training programmes of football clubs in Somalia.

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *waa* (pos.var.)

*in*.....*wanaagsān* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.) 'that one should first get good management for the clubs'

*in* (decl.ptc.) 'that'

*marka horē* (nom.cl.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'first', lit. '[at] the time which is first'

*marka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *mār* + *ka*

*mār* (n.m.) 'time', 'point in time'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*horē* (attr.) 'which is first'; - - - (form A)

*naadiyāda* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *naadiyō* + *ta*

*naadi* (n.m.) 'a club'; *naadiyō* (n.f.plur.)

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*lōo* = *la* + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*la* (impers.pron.)

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'for'

*hēl* (v.Z) 'to find', 'to get', *helaa* (pres.gen.dvg.B); note that when the para-nom.cl.I refers to necessity, obligation, wish or intention and its verbal form belongs to the pres.gen.dvg. paradigm there is a tendency to use forms B rather than forms A.

*māamul wanaagsān* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'management which is good'

*māamul* (n.m.) 'management'; - - - (intg.stg.,cct.cfg.)

*wanaagsān* (v.SAN+) 'to be good'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

ICC = *waa*<sup>1</sup> 'N8'

N8 = *in*.....*wanaagsān*

/20/ *Wallāahi wāx suurōobi karā wēeyē.*

'By God, it is something that is possible.' HA 66: 3. This is a comment made by the hero of the play when he hears his friend's advice on how to silence a watch dog by giving it a camel's knee-cap bone to chew. The hero is planning an elopement and his prospective bride lives in a well-guarded house.

*Wallāahi* (r.i.) 'by God'; an interjection borrowed from Arabic

*wāx suurōobi karā* (nom.cl./smp.stg., neu.cfg.) lit. 'a thing which can become possible'

*wāx* (n.m.) 'a thing', 'things'; *wāx* (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*suurōw* (v.OOB) 'to become possible'; *suurōobi* (inf.dep.)

*kār* (v.Z) an auxiliary verb the meaning of which corresponds to 'can' or 'to be able to' in English; *karā* (3sg.m.pres.gen.cvg.A)

*wēeyē* (ind.)

ICC = 'N11' *wēeyē*

N11 = *wāx suurōobi karā*

*Wallāahi.....wēeyē*, note that there is no explicit subject in this sentence. If it were present it would occur either before N11 or after the ind.

/21/ *Sabābtu wāxa wēeyē in aannu dugsiyāda kū barannō manhajyō shisheeyē.*

'The cause [of it] is that in [our] schools we have foreign programmes.' Lit. 'The cause is that in the schools we learn programmes of foreigners.' JA 74: 1 June 2. From an article which exhorts authors to write educational books adapted to the needs of the country. The article deplores the neglect of the study of Somali history and geography and blames it on the school programmes brought from abroad.

*sabābtu* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *sabāb* + *tu*

*sabāb* (n.f.) 'cause'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); *tu* (form B)

*wāxa* (ind.)

*wēeyē* (ind.)

*in.....shisheeyē* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., neu.cfg.) 'that in the schools we learn programmes of foreigners'

*in aannu* or, optionally, *inaannu*; both ways of writing this sequence are acceptable in the Somali orthography

*in* (decl.ptc.) 'that'

*aannu* (1pl.excl.subj.pron.)

*dugsiyāda* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *dugsiyō* + *ta*

*dūgsi* (n.m.) 'a school'; *dugsiyō* (n.f.plur.)

*ta* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*ku* (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*barō* (v.AN) 'to learn'; *barannō* (pres.gen.dvg.A)

*manhajyō shisheeyē* (nom.cl.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'programmes of foreigners'

*mānhaj* (n.m.) 'programme', 'curriculum', 'method'; *manhajyō* (n.f.pl.); *manhajyō* (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*shishēeye* (n.m.) 'a foreigner', 'foreigners'; *shisheeyē* (sub.gnt.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

ICC = *wāxa wēeyē* !N7!  
 N7 = *īn.....shisheeyē*

/22/ *Ma fīlaysaa īn barnāamajkāa cusubī sīdaad ugū talā gashēen sānnadkāas kū dhammaadō?*

'Are you hoping that the new programme will finish in that year as you have planned?'  
 JA 74: 22 June, 3. A question addressed to the Secretary for Education in a press interview about the new programme for mass literacy and fundamental education in the rural areas for the school year 1974-75.

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ma* (pos.var.)

*fīl* (v.Z) 'to hope', 'to expect'; *fīlaysaa* or *fīleysaa* (2sg.pres.cnt.ext.)

*īn.....dhammaadō* (para-nom.cl.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) 'that the new programme will finish in that year as you have planned'

*īn* (decl.ptc.) 'that'

*barnāamajkāa cusubī* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) lit. 'that programme which is new'

*barnāamajkāa* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *barnāamaj* + *kāa*

*barnāamaj* (n.m.) 'programme'

*kāa* or *kāas* (dem.m.) 'that'

*cusubī* (v.Zt) 'to be new'; *cusubī* (pres.cvg.B)

*sīdaad.....gashēen* (nom.cl./intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'in the way in which you have planned it'

*sīdaad* = *sīda aad*

*sīda* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *sī* + *ta*

*sī* (n.f.) 'way', 'manner'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*aad* (2pl.subj.pron.)

*ugū* = *u*<sup>1</sup> + *ku*<sup>1</sup>

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in', 'according to'; this prep.ptc. refers to *sīda* 'the way'

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) component of the lex.int.phr. given below; in other contexts this prep.ptc. usually means 'in', 'with', or 'by means of'

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.):: *tālo* (n.f.):: *gāl* (v.Z), (lex.int.phr.) 'to plan'

*ku*<sup>1</sup>, see above

*tālo* (n.f.) component of the lex.int.phr. given above; *talō* or *talā* (intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A); note that in other contexts this n. means 'advice', 'considered opinion', 'sound judgement'

*gāl* (v.Z) component of the above lex.int.phr.; *gashēen* (2pl.past gen.dvg.A); note that this v. in other contexts means 'to enter'

*sānnadkāas* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *sānnad* + *kāas*

*sānnad* (n.m.) 'year'

*kāas* (dem.m.) 'that'; - - - (form A)

*ku*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'in'; *kū* (pos.var.)

*dhammāw* or *dhammōw* (v.AAN) 'to finish' (intrans.); *dhammaadō* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.A)

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> !V1!

V1 = *fīlaysaa*

/23/ *Maad i shēgtid inaadeer yāad caashaqday?*

'Cousin, will you tell me [please] - whom have you fallen in love with? HA 66: 1. These words are addressed by the heroine of the play to a man who wants to marry her. Instead of declaring his love directly he tells her that he has fallen in love but without saying with whom.

*maad i shēgtid* 'will you tell me [please]?'; this is a rhetorical question which implies suggestion and encouragement; an idiomatic English equivalent of this question, which is positive in Somali, would be 'Why don't you tell me?'

*maad* = *ma*<sup>1</sup> + *aad*

*ma*<sup>1</sup> (ind.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*i* = *i* + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*i* (1sg.obj.pron.I)

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'to'

*shēgtid* (v.Z) 'to tell', 'to report'; *shēgtid* (2sg.rhet.)

*inaadeer* or *ina'adeer* (n.m.) 'cousin', 'son of paternal uncle', also used as a term of familiar address to persons who are not one's kinsmen; *inaadeer* 'o cousin!'; note that all nouns when they occur as forms of address but have no special vocative suffix, have the following accentual pattern: Accentual Unit 1 or 2 on the first or the only syllable and Accentual Unit 3 on all the remaining syllables, if any. Unit 1 occurs when the first syllable is short, and Unit 2 when it is long. Note that forms of direct address were not included in AN 64a but this could be remedied by referring to nouns in the above contexts as being in the vocative case (case C) in the ope.cfg.

*yāad* = *yaa*<sup>1</sup> + *aad*

*yaa*<sup>1</sup> (inter.w.IV) 'who?', 'whom?'; note that in sentences containing *yaa*<sup>1</sup> the verbal forms are the same as in those ICCs in which a masculine singular noun is emphasized and is followed by the ind. *bāa*.

*cāashaq* (v.Z) 'to fall in love with'; *caashaqday* (2sg.past gen.ext.)

ICC = *ma*<sup>1</sup> 'N4'

V4 = *shēgtid*

Note that this example consists of two independent sentences. The first of them, *maad.....inaadeer*, contains the ICC given above. The second, *yāad caashaqday*, has no ind., since it contains *yaa*<sup>1</sup> (inter.w.IV), see Section X.

/24/ *Dhuumashā dhābarku muuqdaa dhuumashā mā ahā.*

'Hiding [in which one's] back is visible is not [real] hiding.' Proverb. This proverb is used when referring to a clumsy concealment of facts or inept lying on someone's part when the truth is obvious to everyone.

*dhuumashā.....muuqdaa* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) lit. 'hiding in which the back is visible'

*dhuumāsho* (n.f.) 'hiding'; *dhuumashō* (intg.stg., cct.cfg.); *dhuumashā* is a junction form which occurs when another word follows immediately without a pause intervening (see AN 64a: 110-111 and MJ 56: 18-20)

*dhābarku* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *dhābar* + *ku*

*dhābar* (n.m.) 'back' (part of the body)

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); *ku* (form B)

*muuqô* (v.AN) 'to be visible', 'to appear'; *muuqdaa* (3sg.m.pres.gen.dvg.B)

*dhuumâsho* (n.f.) 'hiding'; *dhuumashô* (smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A); *dhuumashâ*, a junction form

*ma'* (ind.); *mâ* (pos.var.)

*yqhay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to belong to'; *ahâ* (neg.pres.)

ICC = *ma'* 'N5'

VS = *ahâ*

/25/ *Wānkīi sow adīgu iga mād qaadīn?*

'Have you not taken the ram from me?' AL 67: 6. These words are addressed by the country wife in the play to her husband. She imagines that it was her husband who took away the ram and not the thief. She expects her husband to reassure her in this belief.

*wānkīi* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *wān* + *kīi*

*wān* (n.m.) 'a ram', 'a castrated ram'

*kīi* (def.art.rem.m.); - - - (form A)

*sow'* or *soo'* (ind.); *sow* (pos.var.)

*adīgu* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *adi'* + *ku*

*adi'* (2sg.subs.pron.)

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); *ku* (form B)

*iga* = *i* + *ka'*

*i* (1sg.obj.pron.I)

*ka'* (prep.ptc.) 'from'

*mād* = *ma'* + *aad*

*ma'* (ind.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*qaad* (v.Z) 'to take'; *qaadīn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

ICC = *sow'* *ma'* 'N5'

VS = *qaadīn*

/26/ *Miyāad kaxāynaysaa?*

'Are you taking them away?' AL 67: 12. A member of a vigilante group in the play, who arrested some thieves, remonstrates with one of the policemen who wants to take them away to the police station and charge them according to the law.

*miyāad* = *miyāa* + *aad*

*miyāa* (ind.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*kaxēē* or *kexēē* (v.AYN) 'to drive', 'to conduct'; here: 'to take away'; *kaxāynaysaa* or *kexēyneysaa* (2sg.pres.cnt.ext.)

ICC = *miyāa* N2<sup>C</sup> !V1<sup>C</sup>!  
 N2 = *aad*  
 V1 = *kaxāynaysaa*

/27/ *Nīn Islāam āh miyāanad ahāyn?*

'Are you not a Muslim man?' AL 67: 3. This question is asked by a character in the play as he attempts to dissuade another character from breaking his promise.

*nīn Islāam āh* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'a man who is [a member of] the Islamic Community' or 'a man who belongs to the Islamic Community'

*nīn* (n.m.) 'man', - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*Islāam* or *Islāan* (n.m.) 'Islam', 'the Islamic Community', - - - (intg.stg., ope.cfg., case A)

*yāhay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to belong to'; *āh* (pres.cvg.A); note that the final *h* in *āh* is not pronounced in this context but is written here in conformity with the usage of Somali national orthography

*miyāanad* = *miyāa* + *aan*<sup>1</sup> + *aad*

*miyāa* (ind.)

*aan*<sup>1</sup> (neg.ptc.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*yāhay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to belong to'; *ahāyn* (neg.pres.-past)

ICC = *miyāa* *aan*<sup>1</sup> N2<sup>C</sup> !V2<sup>C</sup>!

N2 = *aad*

V2 = *ahāyn*

/28/ *Carrūurtu mārkaad dhacdō wāy qososhaa, mārkaay dhacdāna wāy qydaa.*

'Children laugh when you fall, but they cry when they fall.' Proverb. This proverb refers not only to the behaviour of children but also comparable attitudes in some adults.

*carrūurtu* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *carrūur* + *tu*

*carrūur* (n.f.coll.) 'children'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); *tu* (form B)

*mārkaad dhacdō* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. '[at] the time [in] which you fall'

*mārkaad* = *mārka* *aad*

*mārka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *mār* + *ka*

*mār* (n.m.) 'time', 'point in time'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*dhāc* (v.Z) 'to fall'; *dhacdō* (2sg.pres.gen.dvg.A)

*wāy* = *waa*<sup>1</sup> + *ay*

*waa*<sup>1</sup> (ind.)

*ay* (3sg.f.subj.pron.)

*qōsol* (v.Z) 'to laugh'; *qososhaa* (3sg.f.pres.gen.ext.)



*mārkay dhacdāna* = *mārkay dhacdō na¹*

*mārkay dhacdō* (nom.cl/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. '[at] the time [in] which they fall'

*mārka* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *mār* + *ka*

*mār* (n.m.) 'time', 'point in time'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*ay* (3sg.f.subj.pron.)

*dhāc* (v.Z) 'to fall'; *dhacdō* (3sg.f.pres.gen.dvg.A)

*na¹* (conj.) 'and', 'but'

*wāy* = *waa¹* + *ay*

*waa¹* (ind.)

*ay* (3sg.f.subj.pron.)

*ōy* (v.Z) 'to cry'; *ōydaa* (3sg.f.pres.gen.ext.)

*Carrūurtu.....ōydaa*, note that this example consists of two sentences linked by the conj. *na¹*:

(1) *Carrūurtu mārkaad dhacdō wāy qososhaa.*

(2) *Mārkaad dhacdāna wāy ōydaa.*

ICC (1) = *waa¹* 'V1'

V1 = *qososhaa*

ICC (2) = *waa¹* 'V1'

V1 = *ōydaa*

/29/ *Waar beryāhaba wūu i hayee wāanad ggēyne, cāashaq bāan ahay.*

'Listen, it has kept its hold on me all the time but you did not know about it; I am in love.' AL 66: 2. In this sentence a character in the play replies to a question put to him by his friend who is surprised to hear about his falling in love.

*waar¹* (r.i.) a word used for attracting the attention of a man or men, translated here as 'listen'; *waar* (pos.var.)

*beriyāhaba*, lit. 'all the times', = *beriyāha ba¹*

*beriyāha* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) = *beriyō* + *ka*

*bēri* (n.m.) 'time', 'period of time'; *beriyō* (n.m.pl.)

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); - - - (form A)

*ba¹* (distr.ptc.) 'each', 'all'; *ba* (pos.var.)

*wūu* = *waa¹* + *uu*

*waa¹* (ind.)

*uu* (3sg.m.subj.pron.), translated here by 'it'; the reference here is to the word *cāashaq* (n.m.) 'love', mentioned earlier in the conversation

*i* (1sg.obj.pron.I)

*hayee* = *hayay ee*

*hāy* (v.IN) 'to hold,' 'to keep one's hold on'; *hayay* or *hayey* (3sg.m.past gen.ext.)

*ee¹* or *e¹* (conj.) 'and', 'but'

*wāanad* = *waa'* + *aan'* + *aad*

*waa'* (ind.)

*aan'* (neg.ptc.)

*aad* (2sg.subj.pron.)

*qgēyne* = *qgēyn e'*

*qg* (v.Z+) 'to know', 'to be aware of'; *qgēyn* or *qgāyn* (neg.pres.-past gen.)

*e'* or *ee'* (conj.) 'and', 'but'

*cāashaq* (n.m.) 'love', 'a person who is in love', - - - (smp.stg., clo.cfg.)

*bāan* = *bāa* + *aan*

*bāa* (ind.)

*aan* (1sg.subj.pron.)

*yahay* (v.STR) 'to be', 'to belong to'; *ahay* (1sg.pres.ext.)

*Waar.....ahay*, this example is composed of three sentences:

(1) *waar.....hayee*

(2) *wāanad qgēyne*

(3) *cāashaq bāan ahay*

ICC (1) = *waa'* 'V1'

V1 = *hayay*

ICC (2) = *waa'* *aan'* N2<sup>C</sup> 'V2<sup>C</sup>'

N2 = *aad*

V2 = *qgēyn*

ICC (3) = 'N1' *bāa* N2<sup>C</sup> V1<sup>C</sup>

N1 = *cāashaq*

N2 = *aan*

V1 = *ahay*

/30/ *Bal yaan dērisku inna māqlin oo soddōh xūn lay mōodine!*

'Let not the neighbours hear us and let not people imagine that I am a bad mother-in-law!' AL 66: 4. The woman in the play asks her daughter-in-law to speak less loudly and with less bitterness for fear of their being overheard. The daughter-in-law has come to complain about her husband's outrageous behaviour.

*bal* (r.i.), this word is very difficult to translate; in most contexts it corresponds to 'now', 'now then' in English when these words are used expletively; here the nearest equivalent might be 'still', 'yet', but the word has been left out of the translation given above.

*yaan'* (ind.)

*dērisku* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *dēris* + *ku*

*dēris* (n.m.) 'a neighbour', 'neighbours'

*ka* (def.art.gen.m.); *ku* (form B)

*inna* or *ina* (1pl.incl.obj.pron.I)

*māqal* (v.Z) 'to hear'; *māqlin* (neg.opt.); note that this verb has an alternating root: *maqal-maql*

*oo'* (conj.) 'and'; *oo* (pos.var.)

*soddōh xūn* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) lit. 'a mother-in-law who is bad'

*soddōh* (n.f.) 'mother-in-law', - - - (intg.stg., cct.cfg.)

*xūn* (v.Z+) 'to be bad'; - - - (pres.cvg.A)

*lay* = *la i*

*la* (impers.pron.) 'someone', 'one', 'people'

*i* (1sg.obj.pron.I)

*mōdine* = *mōdin e*

*mōd* (v.Z) 'to mistake [someone or something] for', 'to imagine', 'to suppose'; *mōdin* (neg.opt.)

*e'* or *ee'* (conj.) 'and'; this conjunction is often added to neg.opt. forms without any specific meaning

*Bal.....mōdine*, note that the whole sentence may be regarded as a conflation of two sentences:

(1) *Bal yaan dērisku inna māqline.* and

(2) *Yaan soddōh xūn lay mōdine.*

ICC (1) = *yaan'* N2<sup>C</sup> !V7<sup>C</sup>!

N2 = *dērisku*

V7 = *māqlin*

ICC (2) = *yaan'* N2<sup>C</sup> !V7<sup>C</sup>!

N2 = *la*

V7 = *mōdin*

/31/ *Intay calōoshu būki lahāyd cāgtu hā bukto.*

'In circumstances when the stomach would become ill, let the foot be ill [instead].'  
Proverb. In Somali the stomach is spoken of as the seat of the emotions and this proverb suggests that when circumstances arise which could lead to enmity between people one should immediately try to bring about a reconciliation. Since in the nomadic interior mediation and arbitration usually involve travel, a peace-maker could easily develop 'ill', i.e. sore, feet.

*intay.....lahāyd* (nom.cl./smp.stg., ope.cfg., case A) '[in] circumstances when the stomach would become ill'; other interpretations are also possible: 'as long as the stomach might be ill' or 'instead of the stomach being ill'

*intay* = *inta ay*

*inta* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., cct.cfg.) = *in + ta*

*in* (n.f.) 'amount', 'period of time', 'circumstances'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); - - - (form A)

*ay* (3sg.f.subj.pron.)

*calōoshu* (nom.aggr.I/intg.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *calool + tu*

*calool* (n.f.) 'stomach', 'belly'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); *tu* (form B)

*būg* (v.Z) 'to be ill'; *būki* (inf.dep.); note that this verb has an alternating root:  
*bug-buk*

*lēh* or *le* (v.Z+) an auxiliary verb used here with the inf.dep. form *būki* conveying the notion of conditionality; *lahāyd* (3sg.f.past gen.dvg.A) but note that this form of the auxiliary verb need not necessarily refer to the past

*cāgtu* (nom.aggr.I/smp.stg., ope.cfg., case B) = *cag* + *tu*

*cāg* (n.f.) 'foot'

*ta* (def.art.gen.f.); *tu* (form B)

*ha*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *hā* (pos.var.)

*būg* (v.Z) 'to be ill'; *bukto* (3sg.f.optat.)

ICC = *ha*<sup>1</sup> !N8!

V8 = *bukto*

/32/ *Ha īi sōo noqōnnin*!

'Do not come back to me!' AL 67: 8. These words are addressed by the country thief in the play to the town thief who tried unsuccessfully to steal a ram from him.

*ha*<sup>1</sup> (ind.); *ha* (pos.var.)

*īi* = *i* + *u*<sup>1</sup>

*i* (1sg.obj.pron.I)

*u*<sup>1</sup> (prep.ptc.) 'to'

*sōo* (adv.ptc.)... *noqō* (v.ON), (lex.int.phr.) 'to come back'

*sōo* (adv.ptc.) component of the above lex.int.phr.; note that in most other contexts means 'towards [what is regarded by the speaker as the centre of attention]'

*noqō* (v.ON) component of the above lex.int.phr.; note that by itself this verb means 'to become'; *noqōnnin* (2sg.neg.imper.)

ICC = *ha*<sup>1</sup> !N9!

V9 = *noqōnnin*

### Section XIII

#### CLASSIFIED INDEX OF EXAMPLES USED IN SECTIONS VII AND XII

All the annotated examples used in this article are listed below. They are arranged according to the ICCs which occur in them and are divided into two columns headed by the figures VII and XII. These figures refer to the sections in which the examples are used, while the figures in the columns refer to the serial numbers of the examples.

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<i>wāxa</i> N2 <sup>C</sup> V1 <sup>C</sup> !N4!	4	4, 12
<i>ma</i> <sup>1</sup> <i>wāxa</i> N2 <sup>C</sup> V1 <sup>C</sup> !N4!	5	5
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soo <sup>1</sup> miyāa aan <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V2 <sup>C</sup> !	30	
soo <sup>1</sup> !V6!	31	
waa <sup>1</sup> !V1!	32	28
waa <sup>1</sup> aan <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V2 <sup>C</sup> !	33	29
yaan <sup>1</sup> N2 <sup>C</sup> !V7 <sup>C</sup> !	34	30
ha <sup>1</sup> !V8!	35	31
ha <sup>1</sup> !V9!	36	33

#### Section XIV

#### REFERENCES

Throughout this article the works listed in this section are referred to by the first two letters of the author's name and the last two figures of the year of publication, e.g. AR 34 means Armstrong 1934. In the case of newspaper articles the day and month of the issue is given after the figures referring to the year. Figures which follow the types of entry described above refer to pages.

The names of Somali authors are entered in the list alphabetically, but starting with the first names, since no surnames are normally used in Somalia, hence Ali Sugule and not Sugule, Ali. When a Somali name is written in the form it had before the introduction of the national orthography, the orthographic version is given in brackets.

Items AL 66, AL 67 and HA 66 have not yet been published but their texts in typewritten form have been deposited in the Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Information concerning the authors of these plays and their other works can be found in the introduction to HA 74.

Item MU 56 contains fully annotated narratives, with English vocabularies; English translations of Texts 1, 8, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21 and 23 of MU 56 are available in AN 64b.

Some readers may experience difficulties if they wish to obtain items AN 64a, GU 61 and MU 56, but these can be ordered from the Publications Officer, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London WC1E 7HP.

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## **A. Semitic and its Afroasiatic Cousins**

1. Carleton T. Hodge (University of Indiana), *The Nominal Sentence in Semitic* (=AAL 2/4).
2. G. Janssens (University of Ghent, Belgium), *The Semitic Verbal System* (=AAL 2/4).
3. J. B. Callender (UCLA), *Afroasiatic Cases and the Formation of Ancient Egyptian Verbal Constructions with Possessive Suffixes* (forthcoming in *AAL*).
4. Russell G. Schuh (UCLA), *The Chadic Verbal System and its Afroasiatic Nature* (forthcoming in *AAL*).
5. Andrzej Zaborski (University of Cracow, Poland), *The Semitic External Plural in an Afroasiatic Perspective* (forthcoming in *AAL*).

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6. Giorgio Buccellati (UCLA), *On the Akkadian "Attributive" Genitive* (=AAL 2/9).
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15. Talmy Givón (UCLA), *On the Role of Perceptual Clues in Hebrew Relativization* (=AAL 2/9).
16. Alan C. Harris (UCLA), *The Relativization "which that is" in Israeli Hebrew*.

## **D. Arabic**

17. Ariel A. Bloch (University of California, Berkeley), *Direct and Indirect Relative Clauses in Arabic*.
18. Frederic J. Cadora (Ohio State University), *Some Features of the Development of Telescoped Words in Arabic Dialects and the Status of Koiné II*.

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19. Gene B. Gragg (University of Chicago), *Morpheme Structure Conditions and Underlying Form in Amharic* (forthcoming in *AAL*).
20. C. Douglas Johnson (University of California, Santa Barbara), *Phonological Channels in Chaha* (=AAL 2/2).
21. Robert Hetzron (University of California, Santa Barbara), *The t-Converb in Western Gurage and the Role of Analogy in Historical Morphology* (=AAL 2/2).

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